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Issue No 154
Available from Wednesday,
September 8, 2010

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ISSN 1753-119-5



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HOGGING THE LIMELIGHT

Pigs will fly over hurdles this weekend at a beach-themed Traditional England event.

The free family fun day offers a wide range of activities celebrating all things traditionally English, including Punch and Judy, live music, pony rides and pig-racing.

The Riverside Country Park Sunday event will also include a specially made sand beach, complete with deck chairs, sheepdog displays, shire horses, falconry, fly-fishing demonstrations, craft workshops, archery and a chance to sample local produce.

Medway Council's community services boss Howard Doe said: "Traditional England is a great opportunity for all the family to enjoy a good old-fashioned day out.

"With more free events and attractions, we're expecting even more people to come along this year."

EXCLUSIVE

BY DAN COLOMBINI

UNRULY inmates caused more than £10,000 worth of damage during a riot at the young offenders institute in Rochester, forcing staff to run for cover.

The out-of-control Cookham Wood convicts smashed windows and hurled missiles during a five-hour protest at not being allowed to watch television.

The shocking scenes ended with a specialist riot team being called in to restore calm.

Three men were arrested in relation to the events and appeared before Medway Magistrates Court last Thursday. They all face charges of violent disorder.

The court heard that the drama unfolded at noon on Tuesday, June 29, after staff called inmates in from a recreation period.

Of the 40 prisoners summoned inside, only eight complied with the request – with the remaining youths refusing to move.

Inmates then repeatedly chanted "We want TV" in response to a lights-out order that denied them the privilege.

After further attempts to round them up, scenes turned ugly as they started to smash windows, break pieces of concrete and dismantle a set of goal posts which they then hurled at staff.

One female officer was struck on the thigh by a rock.

Staff were then forced to retreat and take

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Printed by Archant Print

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ON TRACK: The site at Medway Park where the athletes will compete next year

Towns secure 2011 pentathlon championships

■ BY REBECCA HUGHES & REBEKAH FLOYD

MEDWAY has won the right to host the 2011 Modern Pentathlon European Championships.

This international sporting event will see past and present Olympic and world champions competing at Medway Park next summer.

The championships, held at the recently opened centre of sporting excellence in Gillingham, will take on added significance as they will count as an official qualifying event for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Medway Council's community services boss Howard Doe said: "To see the world's best pentathletes competing in Medway and qualifying for the Olympic Games in London 2012 will be a proud moment for our community."

"It demonstrates how highly Medway is now thought of in the sporting world and will provide inspiration to all our young people."

The championships, which will run from July 28 to August 1, follow

the staging of the Modern Pentathlon World Cup at the same location in April this year.

Pentathlon GB chief executive Peter Hart added: "We are delighted to be bringing the European Championships to Medway Park."

"With the championships also acting as an Olympic qualifier we are hoping to see our British athletes coming to Medway and clinching one of those coveted places at London 2012."

Jan Bartu, Pentathlon GB's performance director, said: "Hosting the European Championships in Medway in 2011 will give us the best opportunity to qualify early for the Olympic Games and concentrate on preparing the athletes for London 2012."

"I know the fantastic support of the community in Medway will spur the athletes on to deliver top-class performances."

The modern pentathlon is made up of five sporting disciplines – fencing, swimming, show jumping, running and shooting – all of which are held on the same day.

Developed as the ultimate athletic test, the pentathlon celebrates its centenary as an Olympic sport in 2012.

Painting theft man arrested

A SIXTY-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the theft of two paintings, worth nearly £2,000, from a Rochester gallery.

The Gillingham man was arrested on the evening of Friday, August 27, when he was questioned by Medway police before being released on bail until Wednesday, September 22, while investigations continue.

The paintings were taken from the Francis Iles gallery at around 1pm on Tuesday, August 17.

Police are continuing to appeal for information about the theft of the two steam train paintings, valued at £900 and £950.

Anyone with information about the theft is asked to contact Kent Police in Medway on 01634 792527, quoting crime reference number DY/013020/10.

Alternatively, call CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Lords need to generate cash

LORDSWOOD FC has been left with a financial headache after its generator broke down.

The Kent League club, managed by former Gills favourite Jason Lillis, needs at least £5,000 to replace the machine, which powers the flood-lights.

Club secretary Steve Lewis said: "While we're lucky that the clocks haven't gone back yet, we do have a problem."

"We've been quoted around £1,500 for a new engine for the generator, but in truth the whole thing needs replacing and the cheapest quote we've got from anywhere came from eBay last weekend and was more than £5,000, which is simply money that a Kent League club does not have to spare."

"We don't even pay our players and so to find that sort of money in one go would wipe out our finances for the whole season – and we've only played a handful of games."

"We're not desperate, but it's getting close!"

Anyone with a spare 60/70 KWA diesel powered generator is asked to call Steve Lewis on 07775 541573.

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Festival offers Eastern promise

THE towns will embrace their historical links with the Far East this weekend as the annual Will Adams festival comes to Gillingham.

The popular event, celebrating its 10th year, is named after the famous Gillingham-born navigator who is thought to be the first Englishman to reach Japan.

Visitors to the festival will be able to enjoy a taste of Tudor England that Adams would have experienced during his early life in the town.

A new addition for this year's festival will be interactive displays and the opportunity to go aboard a 27ft 'Jolly Boat.'

Enthusiasts can also learn about navigation, seafaring and life on board a ship in the Tudor period.

There will also be a number of attractions relating to Japanese



TASTE OF JAPAN: A demonstration of the tea ceremony and visitors write in Japanese



culture, including games, martial arts demonstrations and face-painting.

Medway Council's community services boss Howard Doe said: "The Will Adams Festival is a wonderful opportunity to explore Japanese culture, as well as learning about life in England during the Tudor period."

"The festival has gone from strength to strength in recent years with even more free events on offer. I urge everyone to come along."

For information, phone 01634 843666, email visitorcentre@medway.gov.uk or visit www.whatsonmedway.co.uk.

Council calls last orders on back-garden boozer

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A BOGUS barman has been ordered to pull down his back-garden pub.

Dean Goodearl, 23, converted his wooden Swiss chalet into a luxury lager lounge – complete with Fosters and John Smiths beer pumps and optics for spirits.

The 8m x 6m portacabin pub also housed a dartboard, plasma TV screen, fruit machine and a disco ball.

Dean even fitted the chalet with ornately framed Georgian-style windows and double doors onto a wooden veranda.

Plus there was an outdoor smokers' bin, giving regulars a place to enjoy a cigarette in-between beers.

The chalet, in the garden of Dean's terraced home in Pimpernel Way, Chatham, is divided from the main property by a boarded fence. Access could only be gained to the pub from its own gate and pathway.

Raid

It was discovered during a multi-agency raid last year.

Medway Council's officers, who worked closely with Kent Police in Medway, then served an Enforcement Notice on Mr Goodearl in January.

This ordered him to take down the building and to stop operating a pub on his land.

Mr Goodearl appealed against the notice to the planning inspector and said that the chalet was only ever used by himself and his close family after they went banger-racing.

But he lost his appeal and the inspector upheld the notice, giving Mr Goodearl six weeks to remove the building and the fence.

Now he must take both down by



CLOSING TIME: The garden chalet and its pub interior, complete with bar



Wednesday, September 29, or face further legal action.

Medway Council's community boss Mike O'Brien said: "We're very pleased that the planning inspector agrees that this building must come down."

"This bogus pub was an anti-social blight for residents living nearby and,

as it was not a licensed premises, it could put people who use it at risk."

"Mr Goodearl now needs to take down this building and give up the idea of being a pretend publican before the six-week period is up or he will face further legal action."

Prisoners' five-hour reign of terror

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

cover inside the building after the rioters began to pick up pieces of glass and make threats.

They were subjected to further abuse as missiles rained down from outside.

Events took a more sinister turn when the rioters appeared to have taken someone hostage.

The court heard how a fellow inmate was led around with his hands tied behind his back and his feet shackled. He was then knocked to the floor by the rioters.

It later transpired that this was a hoax that had been set up deliberately.

With the situation now out of control, a specialist team of anti-riot officers, known as the Tornado Team, were called in to diffuse matters.

The officers moved in despite being faced with continuing violence.

The confrontation lasted for five hours before normal order was

eventually resumed.

A prison spokesperson said: "There were no injuries to staff and three prisoners were treated in the prison healthcare centre for superficial injuries."

"The events have been subject to investigation and appropriate disciplinary action has been taken."

This is not the first time issues of this nature have occurred at the prison.

Last August it was reported that the number of inmates was to be capped until the Prison Service could guarantee an appropriate level of safety.

It was also revealed that a number of prisoners refused to leave their cells through fear of bullying.

Speaking at the time, Anne Owers, Chief Inspector of Prisons said: "This first inspection of Cookham Wood, in

its new role as an establishment for adolescent young men, has raised serious concerns."

"In hindsight, the establishment was a poor choice for this age group."

Its physical layout was far from ideal. This was exacerbated by the fact that neither appropriately trained staff nor essential safety procedures were created and embedded by the time significant numbers of young people arrived.

"The result was a seriously unsafe and poorly controlled environment, with some tense relationships between staff and young people."

Charlie Akhurst, 18, of Edmonton, London, Reece Blackston, 18, of Gravesend and a 17-year-old youth have been remanded in custody until Thursday, September 30.



RIOT: HMYOI Cookham Wood

Destroyer wins TV lottery award

WORLD War Two destroyer HMS Cavalier has won a National Lottery award.

The restored vessel, on display at Chatham Historic Dockyard, pocketed £2,000 after picking up the title of the UK's best education project.

The result was announced live during the National Lottery's Big Night Show on Saturday night.

Accepting the award, Dockyard learning and visitor boss Joanne Creighton said: "It's an absolute honour to have won this award and for everyone involved in the project to receive national recognition for their hard work."

"Lottery funding has been crucial to our project, allowing us to preserve and adapt this amazing ship, which is now an inspiring educational tool as well as a memorial to the men who perished on destroyers during World War Two."

"The awards have given us a great opportunity to highlight how we've put our funding to good use and show anyone who has ever played the Lottery, the difference their money makes."

"We've received fantastic support throughout the competition and I'd like to thank everyone who voted for us."



WINNER: HMS Cavalier at Chatham dockyard

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Criminal proceeds crackdown shows crime does pay for force

A KENT Police crackdown on criminals who profit from crime has proved to be one of the most effective across the country.

The Force has used Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) legislation to take convicts back to court – to seize, confiscate or forfeit any of their ill-gotten gains.

Police scored one of their biggest POCA successes in December last year, when Chatham conman Guarcharan Singh was ordered to pay back £3.2 million.

Canterbury Crown Court found that the 41-year-old had amassed a small fortune through selling counterfeit goods.

Detective Inspector Mark Fairhurst of Kent Police's Serious Economic Crime unit, said: "Police forces have the additional tool of POCA

■ BY REBECCA HUGHES

to recover profits from crime.

"Not only is 'Crime doesn't pay' an effective message, but the money taken from the criminal is then used to support policing in disrupting further criminality."

Police forces can apply for a confiscation order at the crown court to deprive criminals of benefits resulting from crime. If approved by the crown court, criminals are given a deadline to pay back the amount or receive a prison sentence.

In a magistrates court, forfeiture orders can also be made against those who have not been charged or convicted of a criminal offence, but are believed to have benefited from a crime.

The cash and assets recovered are then made available to fund community projects and other police operations to target criminals.

The proceeds are deposited in a central government fund, which police services and other law enforcement agencies can apply for funding from to help fight crime.

This is known as the Home Office's Asset Recovery Incentivisation (ARIS) scheme. In the final quarter of 2009/2010 Kent Police received £312,229, the fourth highest figure returned back to police forces nationally.

For the whole financial year, Kent Police received £736,369 from the scheme, placing the force eighth nationally.

In the next few months, the Home Office will pay more than £1 million seized from cash forfeiture back to Kent Police.

A new Community Cashback scheme, which aims to give residents their say on how criminal assets should be spent, has also recently been introduced in Margate, Tunbridge Wells, Deal and Dartford.

Police restraint death inconclusive

A PATIENT who died at his Gillingham home after being restrained by police has been named as Colin Holt.

The 52-year-old, who had been sectioned under the Mental Health Act, was grabbed by officers in his Goudhurst Road flat at 1.30pm on Monday, August 30.

He had gone missing from Medway Maritime Hospital at 12.45pm that day, prompting staff to call police.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) is investigating the actions of the Kent police officers who were at Mr Holt's flat when he died.

It appears that, while officers attempted to restrain Mr Holt, he became unwell.

An ambulance was called but Mr Holt was pronounced dead at the scene.

IPCC investigators have been carrying out house to house enquiries in the local area, examining officers' initial accounts, checking police logs and looking through CCTV.

A post-mortem examination took place on Wednesday, September 1, but was inconclusive. Further tests have been commissioned.



UNIQUE BIKE STOLEN

A DISTINCTIVE trails bike and a number of power tools have been stolen from a Gillingham outbuilding.

The motorbike, a Kawasaki KX 65, worth in the region of £900, was taken from the Bloors Lane property along with a £600 Hitachi saw and other power tools.

Thieves struck on Saturday, September 4, between 3am and 10am.

The bike is easily recognisable as the graphics were imported directly from America.

Anyone with information can contact Kent police on 01622 690690 or alternatively call Kent CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Girl struck by hit-and-run motorist

A HIT-AND-RUN driver is being hunted by police after mowing down a teenage girl.

The motorist – thought to be driving a black Mercedes saloon car – hit the 15-year-old in Chaucer Road, Gillingham, at 12.30pm yesterday.

The girl was thrown into the air by the impact but amazingly walked away from the scene after only suffering cuts and bruises.

Patrol Officer PC George Shokar said: "It's extraordinary that the girl was not badly hurt in the collision, but she was obviously very shaken."

"We believe that the car involved was a black Mercedes, but we are unsure if it was being driven by a man or a woman."

"We urge the driver of the car to come forward to help with our enquiries. We would like to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have seen something."

"I would also like to remind motorists that there is no right turn into Chaucer Avenue from Rainham road."

"A number of people are ignoring road signs and we will not hesitate in taking action against any motorist not following these rules."

"Motorists ignoring the no right turn are potentially putting people's lives at risk."

Anyone with information about the collision is asked to contact PC George Shokar at Medway Police station on 01634 792120.

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Shipyard picture book set to launch

PHOTOS and paintings of Medway's rivers and shipyards have been put together in a new book, due to be released later this month.

The book, titled 'Dockyard/Estuary Dreck', contains images sketched by Medway artist/songwriter Billy Childish and pinhole photography by travel addict Dave Wise.

The book took two years to compile and includes images of Chatham Historic Dockyard, Rochester and Frindsbury shipyards and the forts and wrecks of the Medway estuary.

Dave Wise said: "We did the shipyards on foot, and when the land ran out we got into a canoe and paddled out into the estuary."

"The estuary is my favourite part of Medway. It's full of adventure and the skies are as big as anything I've seen."

The book, published by Hakim & Slater, will be launched in Chatham Dockyard, onboard HMS Cavalier, on Saturday, September 11.

Profits will be donated to help a Sri Lankan orphanage.

Mr Wise said: "I'm going to Sri Lanka to run the marathon in October."

"While I'm there I'll use the money to buy food to help the orphans."

"We aim to raise about £600, and that will ensure the orphans can eat for a couple of months. They don't get any state handouts there, so fundraising like ours is essential for their wellbeing."



SNAPPED: A photo of a U-boat wreck

'Bookies Bandit' jailed for armed crime spree

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

AN ARMED robber who held up six bookmakers during a two-month reign of terror has been jailed for 15 years.

Gary McMeekin – dubbed the Bookies Bandit – carried out the robberies at bookmakers across Medway between November 2009 and January this year, using an imitation firearm to terrify staff into handing over wads of cash.

The 35-year-old, of Kingswear Gardens, Strood, also raided banks in Strood and Northfleet in March and April respectively.

McMeekin made off with more than £17,000 before he was eventually caught by police.

He was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court on August 31, after pleading guilty to six robberies and possession of an imitation firearm.

He was jailed for 12 years for each of the robberies and three years for the firearm offences, with the sentences to run concurrently.

Getaway driver Robert Blackburn, 31, of Copperhouse Road, Rochester, was also jailed for his part in the robbery at Lloyds TSB in Northfleet.

The 31-year-old, who was the driver of a car used to transport McMeekin to and from the robbery, was sentenced to four years in jail.

Detective Inspector Ann Lisseman, who led

the investigation, said: "These were calculated and planned offences, which put a number of people in fear of their lives. The confidence McMeekin showed to carry out these robberies was astounding, but he has paid the price and will now be in jail for a very long time."

McMeekin and Blackburn were caught soon after the Northfleet robbery, when patrols stopped a red Skoda near the scene.

Inside the boot of the car, officers found a pair of gloves and a balaclava. Following a forensic examination of the clothing, DNA matching McMeekin's was found on the items.

DI Lisseman added: "As the evidence against McMeekin and Blackburn grew, they were left with no choice but to plead guilty."

"These were frightening experiences for the staff and customers in the shops targeted. Hopefully this will act as closure for them."

"Ultimately this was a long and complex investigation, but one which we have managed to secure a positive outcome for."

Crown Advocate Jane Scotchmer said: "McMeekin thought nothing of terrifying the bookmakers' staff in pursuit of money."

"He brandished what looked like a gun in a plastic bag and pointed the gun directly at the staff."

"Kent Police investigators and CPS lawyers have worked hard to build a reliable and robust case against the two defendants and their guilty pleas illustrate the strength of the case we had against them."



SENTENCED: Gary McMeekin (left) and Robert Blackburn and the imitation gun used to carry out the robberies

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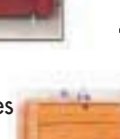
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QUESTION & ANSWER

BARRY PEARSON



Q What is your role within the club?

I have always been involved with the management of rowing clubs and with Medway Towns Rowing Club. I have been a member for 35 years and I thoroughly enjoy it. In the last couple of years I have become the honorary treasurer of the club, which is a great honour.

Q Do you play any other role within the club?

In addition to my role as treasurer, I am also heavily involved in coaching of our members, mainly in the development of the senior squad and the Medway University students for their annual boat race.

And, I like to think, being of help to other members who control the juniors and beginners. As well as on hand to assist anyone that I can that is involved or interested in becoming involved with the club.

Q How did you become involved?

This goes back a long, long way. I have always enjoyed being around and being involved with boats.

Then, one day in the Sixties, I was walking along the Promenade in Gravesend and a member of Gravesend Rowing Club must have seen some potential in me as he asked me to come and join. That was nearly 50 years ago and here I am.

Q What is the best aspect of your role as treasurer?

As sad as many people may think it is, I actually enjoy getting ourselves organised so we have a structure of development for new equipment as our membership is growing fast. I also really like buying new boats and oars.

Q What do you least enjoy?

I cannot stand it when casual damage is done to equipment by carelessness. This results in money being wasted on repairs which could be far better used elsewhere.

Q What has been the highlight of your time at the club?

There have been two. Firstly, obtaining security of tenure on our launching facilities. We were existing by grace and favour, with doubtful security, and living out of the remains of three huts given to us in the 1950s. The improvement in security allowed us to develop. Secondly, the building of our new boathouse. It is three times the size of the old one. It contains excellent facilities for members and is very handy for boat storage.

Q Is the club popular in the towns?

I would say so, yes. Especially if you take into account that our membership has

grown 300 per cent in the last year or so. That would indicate more and more people are becoming interested and getting involved. That's got to be a good sign.

Q What advice would you give youngsters considering taking up rowing?

It would be the same with any sport, or even life in general, and that is join in, be willing to learn, patient and enthusiastic. Enthusiasm gets you pretty well anywhere you want to be.

Q Who are you inspired by and do you have any heroes?

It may be a funny thing to say as a man, but I really like seeing our national women's squad quadruple scullers. They look extremely graceful and have a flow about them.

Q What other hobbies do you have?

I have an interest in road race cycling. I can watch quite happily, especially the big continental races. The teamwork and tactics seem like physical chess at 30mph.

Q Tell us something not many people know about you

I rowed at Henley twice: in the Wyfold fours and Thames Cup eights. Lost both times, of course, but had a super time.

Q & A

Reporter **Dan Colombini** spoke to Barry Pearson, the honorary treasurer of the Medway Towns Rowing Club, about the highs and lows of his many decades on the river and his pride at the club's development

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Cuts could force police to focus on crime hot spots

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

TROUBLE-hit communities may steal bobbies from towns with lower crime rates once Kent Police learn the full extent of planned Government spending cuts.

Chief Constable Ian Learmonth revealed this week the county force will have no option but to slash 1,500 jobs if the Home Office removes 20 per cent of its funding – the equivalent of about £53 million over the next four years.

He told KOS Media that every aspect of his budget needed to be analysed as a result, and it made good business sense to deploy officers where they were needed most.

The decision could result in the more trouble-free areas like Sevenoaks losing some of their officers to crime hot spots such as Gillingham and Margate.

Budget

Mr Learmonth also revealed the force may have to scrap or combine some of its six county divisions in an attempt to save even more money from the budget.

"The decisions on where resources will be allocated will be based on demand and not historical statistics," he said. "It's going to be done in a scientific way and we will carry out the proper analysis to determine where we place

our resources to get the best results.

"We would be foolish to put lots of officers where there isn't the demand – it's just business sense."

When asked if the plans might upset residents in quieter areas who still pay the same level of police council tax as everyone else, Mr Learmonth replied: "It's not about officers; it's about level of service and everywhere in Kent will receive a police service."

Earlier this year Chancellor George Osborne asked ministers to draw up plans for spending cuts of 25 per cent and 40 per cent, but the final figures will not be revealed until the Comprehensive Spending Review is published on October 20.

Mr Learmonth revealed that although Kent Police had only laid out its plans should it receive a 20 per cent cut, it had also modelled for savings of 17.5 per cent and 25 per cent.

"We've not been given any Government figures at all yet," he added. "If it turns out to be less than 20 per cent then that gives us some extra options. If it's worse then it's much easier for us to gear up than it is to start again from scratch."

"But we've had to come up with something because we can't afford to wait. People were starting to speculate about jobs so I thought it was best to get things out into the open."

"I'm hoping the cuts will turn out to be less than 20 per cent, but if it's as much as 40 per cent then that will be a huge challenge for us."

Kent Police currently employs 3,728 officers

and 2,932 civilian staff including community support officers. If the force loses 20 per cent of its funding then about 1,000 civilian and 500 police posts will be axed, albeit mostly through natural wastage and retirement.

Mr Learmonth said the main difference the public would see in that scenario would be the probable axing of some of the existing management structures – the six regional areas the force is currently split into.

He had already hinted upon his appointment in July that the number of superintendents and chief superintendents may be cut along the same lines.

Inevitable

"The bedrock is neighbourhood policing and that's something I want to maintain as much as possible," he added. "But the public will understand that if you take £53m out of the budget then things will inevitably change."

Apart from 'priority' departments including education and the Ministry of Justice, all other government departments have been asked to draw up plans for spending cuts.

Kent Police are currently in the middle of a huge restructuring programme, and in July the force announced that nearly 200 police recruits had their places cancelled.

"I was surprised policing didn't get ring-fenced in some way, particularly when you consider some of the departments that were," Mr Learmonth said. "The public have come to expect a high-quality police service and if you



BUDGET CUTS: New Chief Constable Ian Learmonth has some tough decisions ahead of him

asked people what their priorities were then I'm reasonably confident policing would be up there. However, it's right that we take our fair share of the cuts."

Meanwhile, Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes has described the scale of the potential cuts as "shocking".

She said: "There will be hard choices to make but we will be as transparent and open as possible with regards to the decisions we will have to make."

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all makes used

Kent patients miss out on vital diabetes pump

AN NHS "postcode lottery" has been blamed for diabetes patients in Kent missing out on the full range of available treatments.

The Medical Technology Group (MTG) – a coalition of patient groups, research charities and medical manufacturers – claims only a tiny percentage of diabetics currently receive insulin pump therapy as an alternative to injections.

Recommended for people suffering from type 1 diabetes, the treatment is only currently being used by 0.25 per cent of patients in the NHS Medway region – well below the 12 per cent

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

national target set by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE).

The Eastern and Coastal Kent figure is only moderately higher at 1.5 per cent, while the uptake at NHS West Kent is 5.7 per cent.

The national average is 3.9 per cent.

John Davis is the founder of insulin pump awareness group Input, which is a member of the MTG.

He said: "Access to a treatment as important as insulin pumps should not be dependent on where you live.

"Insulin pumps have been recommended by

NICE as they are an efficient use of the NHS's resources and can have a dramatic impact on patients' quality of life and clinical outcomes.

"The MTG is campaigning to improve patient access to insulin pumps by ensuring every person with type 1 diabetes – no matter where they live – receives the specialist care they need."

Insulin pumps are small devices attached to a patient's waist which feed insulin into the body via a plastic tube as and when needed.

All three of Kent's primary care trusts told KOS Media they were committed to providing all available treatments for type 1 patients.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent said it was currently funding 46 people to receive insulin pump therapy and that it was working hard to



Treatment: The pumps used by type 1 diabetes patients

increase provision and support.

NHS West Kent admitted it was a "lengthy and complicated" process to transfer patients to the alternative treatment, but said uptake had increased considerably over the last few years and that nobody who meets the NICE criteria is turned away.

A spokesman for NHS Medway said the uptake rate of insulin pump therapy had risen to one per cent since the MTG survey was taken, and that patients work with specialists at Medway Hospital to decide which treatment will suit them best.



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M6 toll could warn of crossing's future

INFLATION-busting charges on the M6 toll road are proof that motorists need to be protected by any sale of the Dartford crossing, campaigners warn.

Last October the previous Labour government announced plans to offload the crossing to the private sector as part of a portfolio of "non-financial assets", but the new Con-Lib coalition has yet to make a decision on its fate.

Should the sale get the go-ahead, the Campaign for Better Transport has warned against giving whoever purchases the development the power to set toll charges as high as they like.

This week the group published its report on the M6 toll road in the West Midlands, where motorists were hit with above-inflation price increases as a result of its private owner losing money.

Roads campaigner Richard George said: "It's important any sale of the Dartford crossing is regulated. The Government should learn from the M6 toll road.

"It was built to help reduce congestion on the M6 and started off at £2 to use. But every year the company that owns it raised the toll above inflation because it wasn't making as much money as it thought it would.

"It now costs £5 to use the road, six years after it was opened. If such a situation was to occur at Dartford, it could be a lot worse, because most people don't have an option but to use the crossing."

Congestion

When the QEII Bridge was built almost 20 years ago, the Tory government of the time promised motorists would not be charged to cross the Thames once the construction cost was met.

However, the tolls remained once the debt was cleared in 2003 and in 2008 road-users were even hit with increased charges at certain times of the day.

Mr George warned that congestion and pollution at the crossing could also get worse if it is sold to a private company.

"One of the major issues that arose from our study of the M6 toll road was that there was concern from people living locally that the operators had been encouraging more development in an attempt to increase traffic," he said.

"Such a situation at Dartford would be bad for the M25 and surrounding roads.

"The needs of a private company are often very different to the needs of local people, so the Government is going to have to strike a balance."

A Department for Transport spokeswoman said no decisions would be made about the future of the Dartford crossing until after the Comprehensive Spending Review has been published next month.



LUCKY FIND: Simon Mason with the bracelets

Site visit unearths major historic find

TWO gold bracelets unearthed after almost 3,000 years were spotted by chance.

The items were left buried under the Kent soil for thousands of years, but after a leading archaeological expert visited an excavation site, he spotted them on top of earth already moved during the big road dig.

The discovery is so important, it is set to be filmed by the BBC for its Digging for Britain programme.

The bracelets join some 10,000 other important finds unearthed by volunteers and experts on the East Kent Access site between Ramsgate and Sandwich, the biggest archaeological excavation in the country this year.

And all that historic 'treasure' means the experts are learning a huge amount about how people were living on the Isle of Thanet from earliest times.

The 'Indiana Jones' teams have found prehistoric burial monuments, Iron Age enclosures and a village that would have watched the Roman invasion, plus Saxon cemeteries, tracks and the remains of a shellfish processing site.

These late-Bronze Age bracelets date from around 700BC. They were sitting on top of a pile of earth dug from a trench when Kent County Council principal archaeological officer, Simon Mason, found them while on a site visit with a small group of colleagues.

He said: "It was incredible – a really exciting find. I couldn't believe it when I saw them. It's the first time I've found gold in 30 years as an archaeologist."

"They looked too good to be real. I picked them up and took them over to my colleagues and said: 'What do you make of these?'"

"They were quite tarnished to start with. When we washed them and cleaned them we realised they were something special."

The time teams believe they had once been worn by children and may have been worship offerings, placed near to water. They were found together, one pushed inside the other.



TREASURE: The bracelets are 3,000 years old

Milibands gain MPs' support

■ BY MARIJKE COX

KENT'S former Labour MPs have thrown their weight behind the Miliband brothers as the siblings battle it out to be Labour leader.

The brothers, who have both visited the county in recent months, are up against former health secretary Andy Burnham, ex-education minister Ed Balls and backbencher Diane Abbott.

David Miliband, 45, was the first to enter the race after Mr Brown stepped down as Prime Minister in May.

As a front-runner alongside his 40-year-old brother, Mr Miliband has garnered support from party members following his visit to the

county just weeks after the Tory landslide.

Ex-Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw and former Thanet South MP Stephen Ladyman are backing the hopeful.

Mr Shaw spoke last Wednesday at a Medway Labour Party meeting in support of the elder Miliband brother who he described as "dynamic and intellectual" earlier this year.

Dr Ladyman also revealed to KOS Media he would be voting for him, saying Mr Miliband would bring confidence back to the party and make it easier for party members to



LEADERSHIP RIVALS: David (left) and Ed Miliband

educate voters in the South East.

Former Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser and ex-Medway MP Bob Marshall-Andrews revealed they would be voting for Ed Miliband.

Mr Prosser said: "In terms of regeneration and housing in east Kent, I think Ed, as leader, would make momentous things happen."

Former MP for Gillingham and Rainham Paul Clark, however, is backing Ed Balls.

Former Dartford MP Howard Stoate and ex-Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt were unavailable for comment.

The results of the leadership contest will be announced at the party's annual conference in Manchester on September 25.

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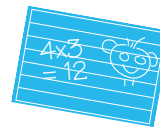
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BREAK TIME



Album star flies in to thrill crowds

FAMOUS feathers swooped into Medway last week, to the delight of Gillingham youngsters.

Ten-pound bald eagle Alaska, who appeared on the cover of the latest Kings of Leon album, was the main attraction at a community birds of prey event.

A variety of other birds were also given the chance to spread their wings above the Lower Lines Park in Gillingham, including a 30 year-old Harris hawk and a barn owl called Crusty.

Keegan Adams, 7, of Johnson Avenue said he enjoyed the day. "I liked the barn owl," he said. "She did funny things, like landing on our umbrella."

The community event, which was open to tenants of L&Q Housing in the Gillingham area, was organised with MidKent College and Kent Police.

MidKent College employee and supervisor of the Lower Lines Park, Kev Woolford, said: "This has been great – a free opportunity for children and their parents to do something fun and educational at the same time."

The birds are owned by Eagle Heights in Eynsford.

Pupils angling for another fishing trip to country park

■ BY REBEKAH FLOYD

YOUNGSTERS took the bait at an angling taster session in Chatham and soon became hooked.

The educational event, organised by Environment Agency staff, was held at Capstone Farm Park Lake.

It provided coaching to five children from Bradfields School in what proved to be an exciting first-time experience, as pupils netted several fish.

The school focuses on providing education for pupils who experience moderate learning difficulties, but who may also have speech, language, emotional, behavioural, sensory, physical or autistic spectrum secondary disabilities.

The Capstone location proved to be the perfect spot for this opportunity. After a recent refurbishment, funded by The Environment Agency, the lake is now home to new platforms suitable for disabled anglers.

Word of the fishing fever soon spread back to the school and a coach load of 15- to 18-year-old pupils turned up with a tutor during their lunch break to see what the excitement was all about.

Head teacher Kim Johnson, a keen angler, also came to offer his support.

He said: "All students agreed it had been a great day and would like to go fishing again. Returning to Bradfields on the bus it was evident that the excitement, concentration and fresh air had taken its toll, with a few sleepy heads and perhaps thoughts of the monster of the deep that got away!"



ENTHUSIASTIC: The five pupils from Bradfields School who took part in the fishing taster session at Capstone Park

At the end of the day the pupils were presented with fishing tackle and certificates of participation to reward their efforts. One individual, Lizzie, was given an award for having the widest smile of the day.

George Ganda, Environment Agency Fisheries Officer said, "It is a delight to see such joy on the faces of the kids. Obviously they have enjoyed themselves thoroughly."

He added, "Many people tell me that angling has therapeutic values, certainly its relaxation

value is not in question. We hope the school will continue to build on the foundations we have laid today. There is certainly no lack of enthusiasm amongst the staff and pupils."

Following on from the event, three staff members will be trained as angling coaches to allow angling to become part of the school's regular activities.

The Environment Agency will continue to support the school as this is developed, as well as providing them with starter kits.

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Mayors drive up town hall fuel bills

THEY visit your flower show, lay wreaths on Memorial Day and welcome visitors to your town from far and wide, but are our mayors really value for money?

Unlike those with undeniable decision-making powers like London Mayor Boris Johnson, the men and women we see bedecked in gold at various civic events are little more than ceremonial figureheads for the councils they represent.

But that doesn't stop local authorities spending thousands of pounds every year ferrying them about the county in gas-guzzling vehicles the likes of which most of us can only dream of owning.

Information provided to KOS Media through requests made under the Freedom

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

of Information Act shows Kent's district and borough councils spend anywhere between £1,000 and £7,000 per year on petrol expense claims for chauffeur-driven vehicles alone.

When you factor in the wages of the drivers themselves – who sometimes perform other civic duties – the annual costs soar into the tens of thousands of pounds.

For instance, Medway council spent £15,663 on mayoral fuel costs over the last five years, but £231,513 on the combined salaries of two civic and ceremonial officers.

"The use of chauffeur-driven, mayoral or civic cars is a luxury that will not go down well with taxpayers, many of whom are struggling with the rising cost of living," said Emma Boon of the Taxpayers' Alliance.

"There will be situations where council staff legitimately have to claim for petrol, but local authorities in Kent must do everything they can to keep these costs down."

Mayors have formed an important part of community life in Britain for hundreds of years, but only a few have any real power.

And despite sometimes chairing council meetings and getting to dress in robes and chains, they are actually just like any other member of the local authority on which they serve.

Cllr Patrick Coleman has been a member of Dartford council for the past 35 years and is currently enjoying his third stint as mayor.

He told KOS Media that although some members of the public do not support the role, most were unaware of the good it does for the community and the money it raises for charity.

He said: "In my opinion it's not a great deal of money and it keeps going a tradition that has always been a British way of life.

"We look to make between £10,000 and £20,000 every year for charity, with most of the money coming from civic events that are now rarely funded by the council."

This year Cllr Coleman has pledged to raise money for the Little Buds baby unit at Darent Valley Hospital, the north-west Kent branch of the Life counselling service for women, Bexley and Dartford Samaritans, and the House of Mercy homeless hostel.

And despite having his fuel costs covered for him, Cllr Coleman insists his position is far from a cushy number.

"I've done it three times and at the end of every year I've been out of pocket," he said. "I do it because I feel I have the ability to add something to the borough as its mayor."



WE'RE WORTH IT: Mayor of Dartford Patrick Coleman says mayors do vital charity work and the role should be upheld

KENT County Council has spent almost £200,000 on chauffeurs' wages since April, 2005.

Despite not having a mayor to send to various civic events, the authority still provides transport for group managing director Katherine Kerswell, council chairman Bill Hayton and other cabinet members and senior councillors.

It also spends an average of £9,400 a year on petrol for chauffeur-driven cars.

A KCC spokesman said: "We are committed to providing the most cost-effective means of transport for elected members and senior officers. For many journeys the car is often the most economical means of travel compared with other forms of transport, such as taxis and trains.

"We remain confident our small fleet of cars, with drivers employed on a casual basis, represents good value and is appropriate given the demands placed on elected members."

Celebrate our wartime heroes

CHATHAM Historic Dockyard will be transported back in time to the 1940s to pay tribute to the heroes of Dunkirk.

The annual Salute to the 40s event will return to on the weekend of September 18h and will see the former naval dockyard play host to a recreation of the dramatic events which saw our troops evacuated from France.

The weekend will also feature a number of other examples of life in a war time dockyard, including a real air-raid siren, the presence of troops and the emergency services rushing to assist fires and casualties.

There will be street scenes from the period, military encampments, hair and fashion from the wartime era and educational activities. A number of exhibitions will also be on show in the Historic



Dockyard's new museum, No.1 Smithery.

Fans of music from the period will also be able to visit four entertainment areas that will showcase the songs and humour that helped maintain our country's Bulldog spirit in one of the toughest periods in our history.

Well known vocalist, Madeline Brown, the Clover Sisters, the Swingtime Sweethearts will be appearing, as well comedian Viv the Spiv. The acts will be compered by the 'Man of Dance' Gipsy John Newson.

The Salute to the 40's will be in Chatham for two days on Saturday and Sunday, 18-19 September.

See www.thedockyard.co.uk for more information about planned events.

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YOUR LETTERS



RESIGNED: Last week's Yourmedway front page

They should go and stand in the corner

It's clear someone didn't do the homework for the headteacher and we are now going to have to pay the price with another expensive election.

Robert Cooke, comment posted online at www.yourmedway.co.uk

A dubious accolade, but well deserved

I have been following your various stories about the activities of Medway Council – spy cars, ciggy-busters, permits to sell your own car etc. Did you know they have been awarded the dubious accolade of Britain's most overbearing authority by Big Brother Watch?

They have overtaken Labour's Sandwell council, previously described as "the most bullying, hectoring and punitive local authority in Britain".

Medway is judged to be even worse. I hope you will bring their new-found status to the attention of local people so they are aware of the sort of behaviour their hard earned taxes is funding.

Name and address supplied



GO WITH THE FLO: Tennent's words of wisdom

Young Florence can count her blessings

Yourblogger Florence Tennent is relatively lucky. At least she's a girl.

Pity the unfortunate Percy Florence, son of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley and his novelist wife, Mary.

Katharine A Gilchrist, by email

Feeling flush enough to waste our money

Are you aware a charge of 20p is now made to use the public toilets in Chatham's Pentagon Centre? As

your blogger

Kent's further education system needs a thorough revision, believes Gary Wright...



THE other week I wrote about how I couldn't understand the huge pressure there is on 18-year-olds to get into university at any cost – including that £21,000 debt after three years.

My attention has now been drawn to the scandalous way many 16-year-olds are being treated. Here's a little publicised fact for you: did you know that almost every secondary school in Kent with a sixth form forbids any visits or input by colleges?

That means year 11 pupils don't really get the chance to see what else is on offer. The school provides its sixth form option and the pupil makes a choice.

A cynic might say this is to ensure schools retain the funding for two more years – most college bosses would agree. And our children are really being let down.

The first let down is the fact that the average sixth form is not particularly vocational. Nor does their one-size-fits-all approach to A-levels suit many.

I know of two cases where youngsters had to choose four A-level subjects and were told they could drop one after a year. Photography A-levels were offered to youngsters who had no interest at all.

So students are forced to choose the A-levels available rather than the ones they may wish to take. A case of youngsters having to fit the system rather than a system geared up to individual needs.

But what happens if your child doesn't meet the grades for sixth form? Bear in mind you are dealing with an individual who has geared his life and expectations, driven by the school, for the next two years to a

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on 01303 817185 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

if this wasn't bad enough, the ladies toilets now have fresh flower displays. Why? Is this what the 20p charge is wasted on? People commented on the audacity of charging for a service that has always been free – and who needs flowers when all we want to do is use the loo, wash our hands and get out and spend money in the shops?

Name and address supplied

John Jones deserves second shot at seat

I served as a councillor in Medway for 15 years and it was a privilege to represent the people of River ward for the last seven years.

I stepped down because I was elected as an MP in Merseyside and believed it was not fair on the residents of either area to try to do both jobs. After I was elected as an MP, I felt it was important to complete the case work I had already started in River ward, although I stepped down as Labour spokesman for children's services.

My work in the last few months in River ward included working closely with residents on St Mary's Island to start a new bus service to the secondary schools in Rochester and Chatham.

I am pleased to say this campaign was a success and the new service starts this week. I believe the service will be well used and a big success. Other recent projects in the

ward included the fight by residents at Esmonde House in Brompton to keep their excellent warden, Sue. In both of these campaigns, I attended recent overview and scrutiny meetings with residents in support of their efforts and to help them make their case.

I worked closely with residents in Chatham to try to stop the council chopping down the trees in The Paddock; in Brompton I supported residents' requests for better lighting in The Cut from Brompton High Street to Dock Road; and at Rochester Gate I worked with residents to try to get the council to provide recycling bins.

Not all of these campaigns were successful, but we worked as hard as we could for the community. One feature of those campaigns was that my friend, John Jones, worked with me on all of them.

He was a great support and did much of the work. I was very disappointed that John didn't win the by-election on August 12 to take over from me and to continue work that he had already been involved in. However, I was shocked when I learned the Tory winner of the by-election had resigned only two weeks after narrowly winning. Whatever the reason for David Craggs' change of heart, I hope John Jones is successful when the by-election is run again. John will make an excellent councillor for River ward, where he lives.

He has shown his commitment to serving the area while working

place in sixth form. I will illustrate this with one school: Norton Knatchbull in Ashford. A decent boys' grammar with an above average record in pupils attaining five grade Cs or above at GCSE, one of the main benchmarks for schools. Knatchbull insists its sixth formers will need eight grade Cs or above to get in. They must achieve Bs in subjects they wish to take at A-level and a minimum of Cs in English and maths.

In one case this year a pupil has managed only a D in maths and has been told two days before term begins that there is no place for him because the sixth form 'could be filled twice over'.

He was never warned about this, so a week after learning his results has begun the search for a college place. And the school admits it doesn't allow colleges to access its pupils. Additionally, when it was accused by his parents of casting someone aside because his exam results were a little low, the master agreed.

To me this is more worrying than the way pupils are forced through an academic system which results in a £20,000 debt for what in many cases is a useless degree.

So, the warning for all GCSE pupils and their parents is clear: take a look at what colleges can offer and do not assume sixth form is best.

I believe it's the fault of the system that has evolved and a teaching staff geared up to retaining their income rather than what's best for their students. Either they know it's failing the students and they can't be bothered to change it, or they are so out of touch that they don't recognise how badly they are letting youngsters down.

Colleges must be allowed access to our secondary schools – and schools must do more for those individuals who fall below their predicted results.

with me and in his voluntary work in the ward. John understands the privilege and responsibility of being elected to serve as a local councillor and if he is successful, River ward will have someone committed to representing the area.

Bill Esterson, Labour MP for Sefton Central and former councillor for River ward, by email

Walking can leave cancer risk behind

There is strong scientific evidence that being regularly physically active reduces your risk of developing cancer later in life.

One of the easiest ways to be physically active is walking. This is why World Cancer Research Fund has launched our Walking Together campaign, which involves people supporting us by organising sponsored walks for family and friends.

The money raised will help us continue funding cancer prevention research and raising awareness that people can reduce their risk of cancer by eating healthily, being active and maintaining a healthy weight. But we also hope it will encourage people to get into the habit of walking. To find out more about the campaign, email events@wcrf.org or call 020 7343 4205. You can also visit our website at www.wcrf-uk.org/walk to find out more information, register your event and download free resources.

Sian Fraser, WCRF, by email

Education system has been wrecked



UNIVERSITY CHALLENGED: Gary Wright's blog

Education: what a farce. Ken Little is right, councillors are already paid too much. Committee membership is robbing us – raiding budgets to reward them and heads of service.

Hindsight is generally unhelpful, apart from showing how blinded we were by unscrupulous governments, eunuchs and their bureaucratic partisans. No matter who gets elected, the collateral damage continues. Education, like any public service, was once a matter of national pride and universal provision. Grammar schools were for the intellectually able, comprehensives were for the more technically inclined. There was a snobbish prejudice against polytechnics and equally unrealistic kudos towards university degrees.

Yourblogger Gary Wright and any wordsmith knows language comprehension is easy and natural for some of us, while vocational, technical, scientific subjects were better taught by dedicated technical colleges, and the arts in art colleges.

Was their inappropriate, insidious transformation into generic universities in 1992 done for political purposes under a misguided Tory policy? To blame foreign students is too easy. Their fees boost university revenues. Under New Labour Indian doctors lured to the UK were forced to pay exam fees on the pretence they would subsequently be offered here. Some young doctors were left destitute after spending cash getting their exams only to be denied work.

Governments, industrialists, subsidised semi-privatised utilities and local councils demand a submissive, cheap labour force they can hire and fire. Are jobs going to East Europeans, Antipodeans and South African whites?

Bangladeshis and Pakistanis often toil in sweatshops, restaurants or minicabs, with poor conditions and housing. They pay disproportionately high taxes and other contributions out of meagre wages and face daily discrimination. Racists are easily inflamed.

It's far harder to sift the truth out of the lies and excuses emanating from governments whose interest lies in helping the super-rich with our cash. They are destroying the fabric of our lives, treating us as cashpoints while we have jobs. If we lose jobs or income through their mismanagement, they accept no responsibility. There is nothing worse than being cheated, defrauded and overcharged from the cradle to the grave.

Is that the future in England?

Rita Grootendorst

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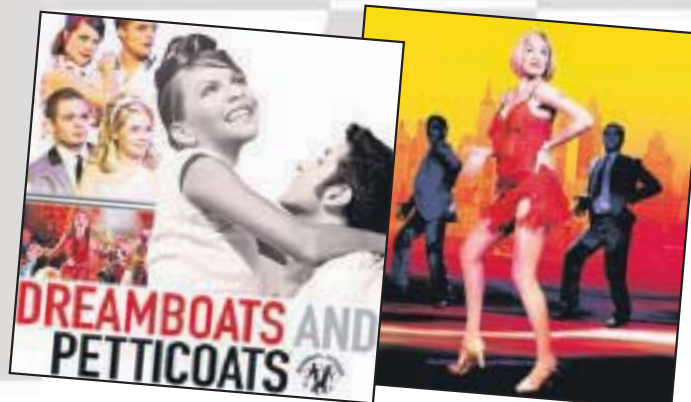
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carsfor Kent.co.uk

LEISURE 18-22



DAY & NIGHT

An evening with Donn

ENJOY an evening of live jazz with the Donn Barcott Band in Gillingham on Thursday.

The band performs at the 44Two Club in Featherby Road on the second Thursday of each month, from 8.30pm to 11pm. Refreshments are available. For more information call the Jazz Line on 01634 405037.

Thriller at Oasthouse

A MIDDLE-AGED actress stands accused of murder in the witty and modern thriller, *Silhouette*.

Rainham Theatrical Society will perform Simon Brett's play at the Oasthouse Theatre in Rainham from Thursday to Sunday and again from next Thursday to Saturday. Call the box office on 0844 879 3224 between 9am and 8pm on weekdays.

Drama at cathedral

ENJOY a classic film in a stunning setting when *A Canterbury Tale* is screened at Rochester Cathedral.

The 1944 film, starring Eric Portman, Sheila Sim and Dennis Price, will be introduced by presenter and film critic Nick Walker at 7pm on Saturday.

Tickets cost £10/£8 including drinks. To book call 01634 810074.

Band singing the Blues

EXPERIENCE an evening of live blues music when The Blues Band performs in Maidstone next week.

Former Manfred Mann members Paul Jones and Tom McGuinness can be seen at the Hazlitt Theatre at 7.30pm next Thursday and tickets cost £17/£15. To book call 01622 758611 or visit www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk.

Classic film at theatre

JUDY Garland is the latest movie star to grace the screen as part of the Central Theatre's Screen Classics season.

Meet Me in St Louis can be seen at the theatre in Chatham at 7.30pm on Tuesday. Tickets cost £6 or £5 if booked online, student tickets cost £3.50. Book online at www.thecentraltheatre.co.uk or call 01634 338338.

Military past revealed

DISCOVER your ancestors' military past with a family history workshop at Maidstone Museum.

Visitors can learn how to make use of military records to shed light on the past. Free two-hour workshops, for ages 16 and above, start at 10.30am and 1.30pm next Thursday. Call 01622 602838 or visit www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk

Brides from the past

WEDDING dresses from the 19th Century go on display at Dickens World in Chatham this weekend.

Opening on Saturday, *The Way We Were* is an exhibition featuring bridal gowns from the 1800s. The exhibition runs until October 9 and is included in the admission price. Call 01634 890421 or visit www.dickensworld.co.uk.

Movie buffs put to ultimate test

BARRY NORMAN'S QUIZ NIGHT

Thursday, September 9
Woodville Halls, Gravesend

FILM buffs can test their knowledge with the ultimate quiz master when Barry Norman visits Kent.

Anyone who thinks they know a thing or two about the silver screen is invited to pit their wits against a true movie expert. Norman will be hosting the fun quiz about all things film, along with his daughter Samantha, and there will be a cash prize on offer for the top performers.

So if you would like to find out if you are a blockbuster or a turkey in the quiz stakes, get together a team of friends, family members or colleagues and put your brains in gear. Teams can have a maximum of 10 members and the winning team will receive a cash prize.

There will be food and wine deals available and the quiz will be followed by a question and answer session, giving participants the chance to turn the tables and put the quiz master under the spotlight.

Norman is the son of film director and producer, Leslie Norman, which might have been a prompt for his enduring interest in the cinema. He started out his career as a journalist with the Kensington News and went on to work as show business editor for the Daily Mail until 1971. He has also written for the Guardian and contributed to the sports pages of the Observer. His musings on television have been seen in the Times and he was a collaborator on the long-running Flook cartoon series in the Daily Mail.

In 1972 he began the show that would become Britain's best-loved movie review programme, the Film... series. He was soon the country's best-known and most popular critic and he was even given the honour of appearing on *Spitting Image*. The satirical puppet show established a catchphrase for him, 'and why not?', which he later used as the title for his autobiography.

In the mid-70s he could also be seen regularly on the Tonight programme and he took a break from the film review show in 1982 to present the arts programme, Omnibus. The following year he was back with Film '83, returning with the black chair and distinctive theme music which had become so familiar to viewers.

Alongside film criticism, Norman has also written and presented a number of series exploring the Hollywood and British Greats, with accompanying bestselling books. He also explored the history of cinema since the introduction of sound in the series and book *Talking Pictures*.

Norman's sporting interests have also featured in his long career. In 1988 he presented coverage of the Seoul Olympics for Channel 4 and went on to interview sportsmen and



women for the BBC2 series, *Talk of the Eighties*. In 1995 he presented a Radio Five Live series, in which he interviewed sports people who had taken up new careers.

He is also a novelist and his fictional titles include *To Nick a Good Body*, *End Product*, *Tales of the Redundance Kid*, *A Series of Defeats*, *Sticky Wicket* and more.

In 1998 Norman vacated the Film... chair to present Barry Norman's Film Night for Sky. He was replaced as host by Jonathan Ross, but he continues to be one of the country's best-known and most respected film critics.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £10. To book call the box office on 01474 337774 with details of your team.



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PAWS IN THE PARK

Saturday, September 11, and Sunday, September 12
The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood

DOGS and owners can enjoy fun challenges together at Paws in the Park this weekend.

Owners and their best friends are invited to take part in a wide variety of fun activities, testing everything from your dog's agility to its dancing skills.

From the Dogstable course, the Fun Scurries and flyball to the K9 Athletics Championship, there is plenty to keep active dogs entertained. With lots of classes to enter, the Companion Dog Show will be the perfect way for owners to show off their pets, and there is even a My Dog's Got Talent competition.

Get wet and wild at the K9 Aqua Zone and the Dash 'N' Splash, on which dogs can spring along a 30ft ramp before launching themselves into the water. P

Paws in Motion training school will offer Heelwork to Music demonstrations and there will also be displays by police and gun dogs, SARDA Meridian Search and Rescue Team and the British Carriage Dog Society.

Tickets cost £9/£8 on the gate or £7.50/£6.50 if booked online at www.thehopfarm.co.uk. Family tickets are also available.



WILL ADAMS FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 11, Gillingham Park, Gillingham

TWO cultures come together when the Will Adams Festival returns for the 10th year.

When Adams made his famous voyage to the East in 1598, he created a link with Japan which Medway residents still celebrate today. Not only does the festival explore the colourful and mysterious culture of Japan, it also gives visitors the chance to find out more about Adams' early years in Gillingham and his life in Tudor England.

A new attraction this year is the 27ft Tudor Jolly Boat, which will play host to talks during the

event. The boat is a replica of those used to ferry crew, officers and supplies from ship to shore. Sir Francis Drake will make an appearance, along with Will Adams himself, and visitors can learn about life during Tudor times and find out how seafarers navigated and traded.

Japanese culture is represented by Taiko drummers, games and martial arts demonstrations, Manga workshops, face painting, and Reiki sessions.

The event runs from 11am to 4.30pm. For details call 01634 843666 or go to www.whatson-medway.co.uk.

COMEDY CLUB

Friday, September 10,
Marriott Hotel and Country Club, Maidstone



COMEDY fans can look forward to an evening of laughter as three more stand-ups appear at the Comedy Club.

The MC for the evening will be the award-winning Joe Bor, whose accolades include the Comedy Store Gong Show, the Comedy Care New Act Night and Hotstarlets. Whether extracting laughs with his impressions of rugby players or entertaining with stories from his time working in a school, Bor is renowned for his natural stage presence.

Once likened to 'Alison Steadman playing a beauty consultant doing Tommy Cooper-style magic', Mandy Muden manages to both amaze and amuse with her hit-and-miss tricks.

The headline act is former call centre worker Andy White, pictured, whose diverse material includes everything from silly voices and loud physical comedy to hilariously deadpan delivery.

The over-18s show starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £14, or £12 for members. Basket meals are available for £10 and there will be a joke competition. To book call 01622 632006 or visit www.haha-heehee.com for more information.



RAY GELATO

Sunday, September 19, Pizza Express, Maidstone



CLASSIC jazz entertainer Ray Gelato invites you to join him for an evening of the coolest swing, jazz and R&B around.

Inspired by his father's record collection, Gelato took up tenor sax in 1979 and studied hard to master the instrument. After meeting such greats as Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young and Illinois Jacquet, Gelato began to reflect these influences in his playing and he was convinced that music would be his life.

In the early 80s he won a talent contest at London's Camden Palace with his band The Chevalier Brothers, which included Maurice Chevalier, and became a big hit on the club scene.

After appearing in the British film Scandal in 1988, Gelato formed Ray Gelato and the Giants of Jive. When that group disbanded six years later, he formed the Ray Gelato Giants, with whom he still performs.

As well as being a popular live performer, Gelato is also a successful recording artist and has made numerous TV and film appearances.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £24. Book online at www.pizzaexpresslive.com.



RHOD GILBERT

Wednesday, September 15,
Orchard Theatre, Dartford



IN his latest explosive stand-up show, Rhod Gilbert strives to find out if he really does overreact to life's frustrations.

Although other people tell him he has anger management issues, the Welsh comedian is convinced that he is the only one thinking clearly. In his last show, he told stories about how he punched a shop assistant over the duvet tog rating system and went crazy over a mince pie. So with his latest comedy extravaganza, Rhod Gilbert and the Cat That Looked Like Nicholas Lyndhurst, he sets out to seek the truth.

Gilbert has rapidly risen to become one of the country's favourite comedians and has appeared on many comedy panel shows. He has also starred in his own series, Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience, in which he tried his hand at a diverse range of jobs from full-time mum to soldier.

He is extending his latest tour due to popular demand and last year he achieved the highest-selling debut DVD release of the year.

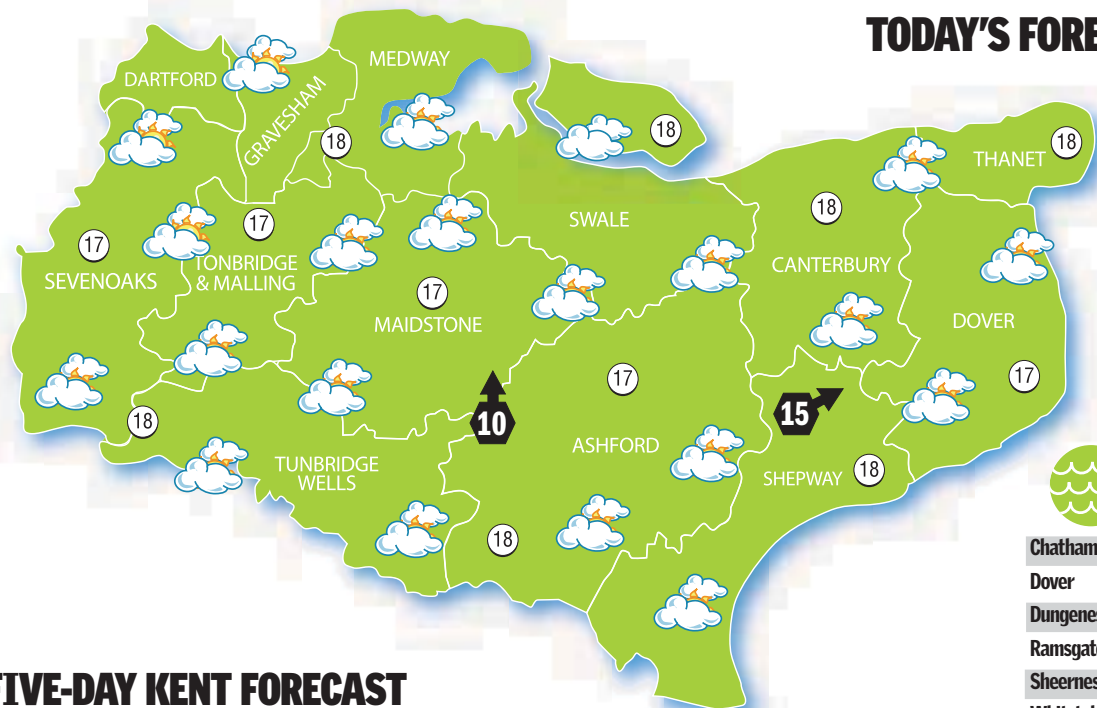
The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £20. Call the box office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.



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TODAY'S FORECAST



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	20°C	Madrid	31°C
Athens	29°C	New York	23°C
Barcelona	29°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	29°C	Rome	27°C
Bombay	28°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	16°C	Tenerife	27°C
Cardiff	18°C	Tokyo	32°C
Gibraltar	27°C	Vancouver	17°C
Hong Kong	33°C	Warsaw	11°C
Las Palmas	28°C	Wellington	15°C



KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	3:25pm 6.7m	Sunday	4:07pm 6.5m
Dover	Saturday	1:42pm 7.2m	Sunday	2:23pm 7.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	1:42pm 8.4m	Sunday	2:23pm 8.2m
Ramsgate	Saturday	2:12pm 5.5m	Sunday	2:53pm 5.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	3:15pm 6.3m	Sunday	3:57pm 6.2m
Whitstable	Saturday	3:24pm 5.8m	Sunday	4:05pm 5.7m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	18°C
Canterbury	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Chatham	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Dartford	19°C	19°C	20°C	21°C	20°C

Dover	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Faversham	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Folkestone	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Gillingham	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Gravesend	19°C	19°C	20°C	21°C	20°C
Maidstone	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Ramsgate	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Rochester	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C

Sevenoaks	17°C	17°C	18°C	19°C	18°C
Sittingbourne	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	19°C
Tonbridge	18°C	18°C	19°C	20°C	19°C
Tun Wells	18°C	18°C	19°C	20°C	19°C



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Issue No 2



**your midweek guide
to independent business**

yourlocal

Issue No 2



your midweek guide to independent business

Celebrating the independent trader

THIS is our second supplement celebrating some local success stories and examining why local, independent traders can offer so much more.

In a world where multi-nationals with their loyalty cards have become the default shopping choice for many, it is refreshing to look at some of the alternatives.

And there is no doubt that independents really do offer an alternative with levels of

service and attention to detail which it's difficult to match.

We hope you will enjoy the supplement and find interest in some of the behind-the-scenes revelations.

Being your own boss is not an easy choice but you will find those who have made a success have normally found their own niche.

So whether this supplement inspires you to consider working for yourself or simply convinces you to consider spending more of your own money locally, there is something for everyone.

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Building on an excellent family reputation

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A recipe for satisfied customers

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This store won't be floored

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Sales staff are electric

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Sweet taste of success

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Driven to make customers happy

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Learn the subtle art of networking and put your business one step ahead

IF you want to stay on top in business today it's crucial to master the modern skill of networking.

These are the reasons why networking has become so important to small businesses:

1. Networking is seen in this current financial climate as low or no-cost marketing.
2. Networking is seen as the opposite to hard-sell and cold-calling.
3. Networking is seen as a 'social', more comfortable or easier way to gain customers, without having to sell or be sold to.

But there's a problem with that:

1. Networking isn't cheap.
2. Without skill, networking is random and produces random results.
3. Without a clear strategy and the skills to back it up, networking produces a lame bit of PR of questionable value.

More mature professionals are often quite comfortable socialising. They enjoy it, even.

But the rules have ALL changed.

My father was a Rotarian for 44 years. He would have shuddered at the thought of 'selling' to his club colleagues, and yet, in his day, they all bought from each other. The loyalty was staggering. Not any more.

Networking is, to put it politely, a free-for-all. (Virtually) anyone can turn up, and sometimes the competition is fierce!

Standing out is the first hurdle. What every networker wants to ensure is that they get noticed and remembered. And if you're just one of 27 grey suits, how do you make that happen?

How can you leave the meeting having made a lasting impression? How can you ensure that in the crowd, when they think, 'Oh, there's that great accountant I met', yours will be the

name that springs to mind?

Your name and the name of your business need to be front of mind when people think 'accountant'; just like everyone chants McDonald's, when they think fast food or burgers.

So how can you and your business achieve this pole position? It's all about influence.

We used to call it 'selling'. Now, we're more sophisticated and we call it 'influencing'.

Building profitable relationships in business is down to one thing: your ability to influence the other person. It always has been. It's just that now, the psychology around it has changed.

We need a consistent system. These are the stages of the process. When you get them right, profits flow as a consequence. When you get them wrong, there's often a great deal of disappointment and a dent to the bank balance.

- Preparation.
- Entering the room.
- Shaking hands.
- What to talk about.
- What to say.
- How to listen.
- How to identify who has potential to buy or refer.

- How to get into a rapport – with anyone.
- How to match the conversational style and needs of the other person.
- How to influence without overtly selling.
- How to identify those people with whom a profitable relationship is most likely to be built.
- How to avoid the seven cardinal sins of networking.
- Understanding the rules of the game and checking that they do too.

Which brings me to the best-kept secret of face-to-face networking: online follow-up – the way to multiply results and make more money.

Exactly how and when you follow up your initial meeting is crucial. Your follow-up email or phone call can make or break the relationship.

Send them a salesy email and they'll hate you for it. Offer to help or ask a great question and they'll pay more attention and like you more.

• By QJ, The Extreme Inspirationist. QJ leads inspirational, practical seminars showing businesses how to make more money and how to leverage their relationships to greater profit at the next level. For information or inspiration, see www.theinspirationist.com, email qj@theinspirationist.com or call 0800 840 609.

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Family-run business aims to build on roots and reputation

AN ASHFORD family business is using the skills and experience gained on major construction projects in the capital to deliver quality buildings back home.

Wealden Woodstyle, set up 10 years ago by two long-term Kennington friends, has been making a name for itself working on apartments, hospitals and custodial buildings for major London firms.

Originally set up as a partnership by Darren Black, pictured, and Simon Blake, the company has now been incorporated as a limited company and is widening its focus to take on projects in Ashford and beyond.

While Darren's background is in timber-framed buildings and bespoke kitchens, partner Simon has building very much in his blood. His grandfather's company, Beaney and Sons, was responsible for a great deal of building in Ashford in the 1960s.

The company has established a reputation for high-quality design and build work and wants to play a part in making sure the new buildings currently appearing as part of Ashford's rapid expansion are well designed and conceived.

Darren's wife Zoe and Simon's wife Daniella are also actively involved as

directors of this well-rooted family business with strong local connections.

"We care passionately about Ashford as we grew up here and saw it develop from a market town to the thriving business centre it is now," said Darren.

"Simon's grandfather played a part in Ashford's post-war growth and we want to continue that by offering a quality product delivered by skilled local tradesmen."

NHBC-registered Wealden Woodstyle, which provides sub-contracting services in carpentry and joinery as well as offering a full building service, has now moved to new premises just outside Ashford, where the landlord immediately asked the company to take on a major office repairs project on an adjacent site.

"It is important to use a local builder because you can visit the company, check out their work, talk to them about their ideas and take advantage of their local knowledge," explained Simon.

Wealden Woodstyle has worked in the retail and housing sectors as well as on major Private Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes and corporate office builds. "We're keen to use that experience on building projects in Ashford," Simon added.



Personal touch leads to baby boom for shop

Ed Hill meets Sally Starley who knows the long-term value of personal service at Ashford's Tiny Tots baby shop

IT MAY be a tough time in the retail world at the moment but one independent trader in Ashford says you can be a success if you are prepared to go the extra mile.

Sally Starley is the owner of Tiny Tots. She started the business 32 years ago. Her shop at the corner of Bank Street and Elwick Road specialises in everything parents need for their newborn baby.

She said: "I think our success is definitely down to knowing our customers. People come to us for advice. We don't push hard to sell them things but we hope they remember that we have been helpful when they do decide to buy something."

Tiny Tots is now the oldest independent baby store in the south of England and attracts customers from around the country.

Mrs Starley said: "Our reputation is passed



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down from generation to generation. Brothers and sisters who had things bought for them here when they were children come back to us even if they move away.

"Our customers come from all over Kent, London and beyond. I'm even sending a pram to Manchester."

One of Mrs Starley's customers even made the journey from Hertford to thank her after she had been so helpful on the phone.

She said: "We are a traditional business. It all comes from word of mouth. I think the most important thing is to be able to talk to people either in the shop or by phone. It really helps to understand exactly what they need; that way they will get the best product and the best value for money."

Tiny Tots has a website but does not sell things directly online.

Mr Starley said: "We do send things mail order, but I feel it is always best to have direct contact with the customer first."

She also says her shop offers service no large chain or supermarket ever can.

She said: "I'm passionate about my business and my customers. Particularly for new parents we are able to offer a lot of advice and reassurance. We are all mothers and grand-



MOTHER SUPERIOR: Shop owner Sally Starley feels going that little bit extra is what keeps her customers coming back for more

mothers ourselves. I have had five children myself. We have been there and done it."

• Tiny Tots can be contacted on 01233 623511.

Daytrippers are ticket to boost in coach company's business

COACH companies have enjoyed something of a boost thanks to the recession, volcanic ash clouds and people's renewed interest in holidaying in the UK.

Alan Johnson has been in charge of Crosskeys coaches in Folkestone for the last 10 years and said business is continuing to hold up well.

He inherited the reins from his parents, when it was based in Newingreen, and has established a loyal customer base and developed some excellent working relationships with major tour operators.

The company, which has 22 coaches in its fleet, now operates out of Caesars Way in Folkestone and offers routes to a wide variety of UK and European destinations.

Despite the recession inevitably hitting everybody in the travel market, Mr Johnson said there have been some high points to come out of the past year.

"It's been steady, it was quiet at the beginning of the year but then that was down to the snow," he said.

"We picked up extra business during the ash cloud, transferring people from Dover docks to various airports.

"We've just finished our summer with taking foreign students to and fro and there wasn't any decrease on that from last year. The cruise ships coming into Dover are still keeping us busy."

Asked about the advantages of taking the coach compared to a car or plane, he said: "It saves on parking, you can be picked up at one point and be dropped off



at a central location. You haven't got to worry about finding a space or congestion.

"A lot of people think when they're given the price for coach hire it's quite high, but when you divide it down by 50 people, it's actually quite reasonable.

"Daytrips are among our most popular offering, with London being one of the most popular destinations. But then we do a lot of holidays for customers where they hire the coach for the week and go off to north Wales, Scotland or Newcastle."

However, a new trend has emerged over the summer, with theme parks now a hit with families wanting to go by coach.

Mr Johnson said: "We've done better this year on the theme parks. Possibly people have been staying at home this year so they've been taking their children out on a few different day trips rather than one holiday."

"Hopefully it's going to be positive from now on, but you never know. You've always got to be careful, just in case."

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Home security company offers National ambitions with friendly, local service

WHILE most people would choose good local service over a call centre-driven multi-national, there are some situations where size does matter.

Home and business security is one area where people want friendly service but welcome the back-up that comes from a company that is big enough to respond swiftly and efficiently in an emergency.

It may sound like the best of both worlds, but that's exactly the promise made by Red Alert, a security company that has national ambitions but is still based in Ashford, where it was set up 17 years ago.

Red Alert has the back-up, the experience and the skilled engineers to deal with every eventuality, but still provides outstanding service with a local feel and has looked after many of its customers since managing director Clive Gawler began the business in 1993.

Red Alert installs smoke detection and fire alarm systems as well as a wide range of wired and wireless intruder alarm systems.

On the subject of maintenance, Clive is so committed to providing good service that he doesn't expect customers to sign a contract for that vital annual check.

"If we give a good service then we expect our customers to ask us to



CAUSE FOR ALARM: Security company Red Alert offers service with a smile to clients big and small

carry out their maintenance next year too," he explained. "We'd never dream of trying to lock them into an annual contract."

Clive's team also fits automated gates and garage doors that allow access at the touch of a button and installs external security lighting that reassures the householder while making life more difficult for any potential intruders.

It installs CCTV cameras that can protect commercial as well as domestic property and has contracts with councils and companies

across Kent.

A true local success story, Red Alert now looks after parts of the National Gallery in London as well as other high-profile galleries and big-name customers.

But while the company is growing steadily and making a name for itself well beyond the county's borders, it remains committed to providing an efficient and friendly service to loyal local customers who like to see the same faces arrive to carry out their annual alarm system maintenance.

Cooking up a

Independent kitchen shop makes a meal of catering for all shopping tastes

THE Orange Tree Cook Shop is an exceptional supplier of kitchenware truly rooted in the community, writes *Jenny Armstrong*.

Run by personable grandmother Sandra Clarke on Herne Bay's High Street, customers are sure of helpful advice.

For Mrs Clarke, 55, the kitchenware business runs in the family. She said: "My dad had a cook shop in Whitstable for about 17 years. I set the shop up in 1998 as I thought Herne Bay could do with a cook shop."

"The town didn't have anything like that at all – there are the odd pound shops and supermarkets that sell some things – but apart

from that there wasn't anything specialised in the town. So I thought I'd give it a go."

Mrs Clarke runs the shop herself and relishes the opportunity to get to know the townspeople. She said: "Over a period of time people get to know me, I get to know them and it's friendlier than a shop assistant in a big store who doesn't know you from Adam."

"It's nice really because over a period of time you get to see people quite regularly. A lot of people come in, especially a lot of more elderly people, for a chat."

"They don't come in to buy anything half the time but they ask about my holidays and the children. I'm in a small town and people have got to know me, which is nice because otherwise it can be a long day!"

"It's nice to get someone in to pass the time. We donate raffle prizes to the schools and the summer fêtes so you get to be part of the community."

And the businesswoman believes her independent shop can do something the bigger stores cannot – cater to the needs of all.

She said: "The advantage of using a small trader is we sell all



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BAKING A PROFIT: Orange Tree owner Sandra Clarke stocks those everyday kitchen items

the little bits and pieces the big places don't bother with. They are interested in the big machines and gadgets. I make sure I stock all the bottle brushes and sugar tongs.

"People always come in and say: 'You haven't by any chance got...'. I've been going 12 for years so, over that period of time, you do get to build up your knowledge. On the whole I can answer most of people's questions or get them what they want."

And Mrs Clarke has found the downturn has had some unexpected consequences in her field of business. She said: "Cupcakes are a really big trend at the moment. They have taken off



really, really well.

"Since the recession people have been coming back to do more cooking from basics. They're not buying pre-made food – they're making it themselves and doing their home-baking.

"It's not just the older generation now – it's the younger families with their kids learning to cook again."

Recession fails to floor carpet specialist

THERE may be an underlaying recession, but an Ashford flooring business has bucked the trend by opening a brand-new showroom on the prestige Orbital Park site.

Trevor White set up Diamond Floorings as a mobile flooring business just three years ago, driving out to potential customers and leaving them with samples they could look through in the comfort of their own homes.

Despite launching during the worst economic conditions for decades, the business took off, and Trevor soon realised that he needed a permanent showroom to capitalise on the increasing demand caused by referrals from his existing customers.

"It's been astonishing," said Trevor. "While other businesses are struggling, our sales have increased to the point where I needed to open a showroom to meet demand. I couldn't drive quickly enough to get round the customers who wanted me to visit them!"

The result is a new showroom housing a wide range of carpets and vinyl floor coverings at The Glenmore Centre, Moat Way, on Ashford's prestige Orbital Park. Diamond Floorings is the area's only stockist for the exclusive British-made Victoria Carpets range and for Karndean designer floor tiles.

The showroom, which opened at the weekend, will serve both domes-



Picture: OUS HARMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

WALL TO WALL: Diamond Floorings' new showroom

tic and business customers with a range of quality floor coverings, from premium carpets and designer vinyls to top-name laminates.

"The showroom has a much more intimate feel than the traditional warehouse-type building and I'm determined to continue to offer the personal service that has helped us to get to this position," said Trevor.

"In particular, we will continue to offer hassle-free fitting at a time that suits the customer and we will do any furniture moving necessary, get rid of the old flooring and vacuum behind us."



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Meet Brittain's most trusted sales staff

STAFF at Brittain & Hobbs have been providing people in Sittingbourne and Sheerness with electrical appliances since 1972, writes *Jill Hurst*.

While other independent firms have crumbled in times of economic hardship or up against corporate giants, this family business has managed to entrench itself so well it's become part of the fabric of both towns.

The firm sells a range of appliances including washing machines, cookers and televisions, together with smaller items such as toasters and irons. It also runs a rental centre and repair service for its own items in addition to electronic goods, laptops and games consoles.

Although still involved in the rental side of things, founder Ron Brittain has passed the day-to-day running of the company to his son Robert and a team of 16 staff, including branch manager Michael Prizeman.

Michael believes the continued success of

Brittain & Hobbs is down to its customer service. He said: "It's a very friendly place to work. I've been here 14 years and some of our engineers have been here donkey's years."

Michael says this has resulted in a consistency customers have come to trust. "There's certainly more repeat business here than anywhere else I've worked and that's a reflection of the level of service."

"Our aim is to provide a quick and personal service. Bigger chains may have stores in the area but their warehouses are located in various parts of the country. This means customers have to wait for their orders."

"We have a warehouse on site so if you buy a fridge-freezer in the morning you can have it in the afternoon."

"Unlike the big chains we provide a complete service so our engineers won't just dump stuff and run. If they're delivering a television, for example, they'll make sure it's set up and the customer is happy before they leave."

"It's small details that make a difference

and that's why people come back to us."

Brittain & Hobbs take their position in the community seriously, participating in town events such as the carnival and sponsoring a charity fun day each year.

They've also moved with the times using the internet to spread their message and keep in touch with clients – boasting 300 friends on the social networking website Facebook

Hard work, reliable products, trustworthy staff and a commitment to the community seems to be their formula for success.

And having made the final 12 in the Swale Chamber of Commerce's business of the year award – with the winner being announced in



PLUGGED IN: The successful team of 16 staff at Brittain & Hobbs is lead by branch manager Michael Prizeman (left)



October – it seems the customers aren't the only ones who think so.

• Brittain & Hobbs are at 6 Roman Square, Sittingbourne, and 22-24 High Street, Sheerness. You can contact them on 0800 027 3500 or www.brittainandhobbs.co.uk.

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Taste Kentish fare in ideal historic setting

ELVEY Farm is a medieval farmhouse in a magical setting in the village of Pluckley and a visit there is like stepping back in time, *writes Nick Ames.*

Meridian TV's Jeff Moody is the man behind one of the county's top venues when it comes to stylish dining and last Christmas opened the restaurant.

Since then Jeff and his partner Simon have been amazed at the number of people who come to eat at their restaurant.

"We see so many familiar faces," said Jeff. "Some people come back week after week, which is lovely because you get to know them."

The restaurant is in a 16th-century barn and enjoys a wealth of period features and views over the fields.

Specialising in old-fashioned Kentish recipes, it showcases some of the best local dishes.

The kitchen has also resurrected some old classics, such as game meatballs, and apple and cobnut pudding, and these sit comfortably alongside modern alternatives such as salmon and prawn terrine.

Chefs have created a dish called A



Taste of Kent, which includes hop-picker's pie, hunter's pie and venison and chestnut casserole.

Staff have tracked down many of the old recipes to create truly unique food such as a watercress lady's lunch and thresher flan.

Gypsy tart is also a current favourite on the menu as a dessert.

Jeff said he wanted a new challenge and the chance to be his own boss after years as a TV reporter.

He said: "Being independent has given us the chance to experiment

and ensure that we keep to local recipes and produce.

"Our motto is 'Kentish to the Core' and that includes making sure even the soap is made locally.

"We think it's extremely important to do this. Our meat comes from a farm just down the road in Smarden and our fish is caught off Hythe.

"The Old Kentish recipes are all faithful recreations alongside our own creations.

"For instance, the watercress lady's lunch is in honour of a local ghost – an elderly lady who smoked a pipe and drank gin, but set herself on fire and then drowned after jumping into a stream to try and put the fire out.

"It's a duck breast salad with juniper berries and marinated in gin. This is just one of the advantages of being an independent business. We can try out different things and express ourselves."

Jeff added that he was very happy in his role as a restaurateur and guesthouse owner.

"I spent a long time in TV, both BBC and ITV2," he said. "But now I'm doing what I always wanted – being my own boss and having the chance to express myself and do what I want to do."

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After 30-odd years of driving, I've lost count of the back trouble I've suffered due directly to rubbish seating in cars.

For me it's top priority and drivers who suffer the same problem should remember it as they sign the cheque for their shiny new motor.

So, the only thing I was going to criticise about the Hyundai Santa Fe was the driver's seat: electrically adjustable, leather, heated, so it should have been easy to get comfortable.

But it wasn't. I needed more lumbar support and cussed it a few times until the eighth day (and almost 900 miles later), as I prepared to return it to Hyundai. I discovered – conveniently placed on the side of the seat – two buttons... to alter lumbar support.

How I missed it I will never know. Perhaps it was the fact that it was loaned for a week-long holiday in Norfolk and I was on my way within hours of taking delivery.

But I can confirm that for the final few miles in my stewardship the seat was finally comfortable, perhaps it could have done with a fraction more side support when taking bends, but it would be churlish to complain.

So, the Santa Fe is a fine 4x4, good-looking in the same way Merc off-roaders manage and – I'll whisper this – it's a bargain.

Ignore the green anti 4x4 brigade and consider the Santa Fe – a good-looking estate car with stacks of space and rugged 4x4 when the going gets tough.

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six-speed auto box, which lists at £25,705.

Its 194bhp 2.2 litre diesel actually feels much bigger and, even with auto, she'll tow 2,000kg.

The lower spec Style starts at just over £21,620, so we are talking value here.

The green dashboard ECO light comes on when you're driving sensibly, 2,000 rpm means about 70 in 6th, so mid 30mpg is easy.

It feels as familiar as a Ford Fiesta to drive, and despite the size, is easy to manoeuvre. The indicator and wiper stalks are on the 'wrong' side, like old Japanese cars, as is the South Korean way, but you soon get used to it.

The seven-seat option was perfect for a week's holiday with three teenagers. On the journey to Norfolk they sat in the back, and the load compartment swallowed enough luggage for the trip and the self-levelling suspension kept the whole car in shape.

In Norfolk I spent a lot of time on country roads doing 30-50 mph. It's not a sports car and



ALL-ROUNDER: The Hyundai Santa Fe was perfect for a family trip to Norfolk, with its even-seat option and iPod docking

I wouldn't drive it as such. She rolled a bit more in corners than a saloon or estate but slow in accelerate out on bends meant swift progress with a minimum of passenger discomfort.

The Santa Fe has specific MP3 and iPod sockets to play through the decent stereo, which forms part of a neat, tidy dash, bathed in blue light, which I like.

Will she off-road? Yes, I think so. A couple of passing places in narrow lanes had me welcoming the electrically folding door mirrors and I had a couple of the wheels 'off-road'.

I discovered you could turn off the ESP and engage the diff lock to get muddy but I didn't

need to. The biggest benefit though for my return to Kent and its terrible road surfaces was the sensibly profiled road tyres on handsome alloys. No pothole fears with this baby.

The likes of Kia and Hyundai have come on massively in the past 10 years and they make cracking motors now that compete with the best and with their gold-plated warranties they are now world bestsellers. Enough said.

My tip would be choose according to your dealer. Many are brilliant, some may not be, so ask around and trust your instinct.

Gary Wright

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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO₂ emissions (g/km); Highest: Citroën Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 VTi 120hp 10.0/28.2, 5.9/47.9, 7.4/38.2, 174. Lowest: New Citroën C3 1.6HDi 90hp DPFS Airdream+ 4.7/60.1, 3.3/85.6, 3.8/74.3, 99.

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WHEN money is tight, the last thing many of us need is to fork out thousands on a new car or spend hundreds of pounds on repairs.

But if your motor gives up the ghost, leaving you without wheels, then a new car, or paying for repairs to your current one, is an expense that must be met.

The internet is bursting with bargains and offers that seem – and often are – too good to be true.

Many local dealers say that the deals found online come with catches and clauses not always obvious to customers, plus there is the fact that it is much harder to examine a car that may be shipped to you from the other end of the country, or even abroad, for yourself.

So why should buyers buy their car from a local dealership?

Bryan Smith, the principal dealer at Baileys Nissan in Canterbury said that local dealers offer many deals as competitive as you would find elsewhere.

He said: "Staying with a local dealership is simple. If you have any issues with the car then you can deal with us face-to-face and resolve those issues in person. This could save you a lot of time and money in the long run."

"If you pick up a car that's delivered from, say Edinburgh, and it turns up with a scratch on it, then your problem is with the dealer there."

Why keeping it local can bring you peace of mind

Buying from a trusted local dealer brings benefits over internet deals



WHAT PRICE SATISFACTION? Great service brings drivers back to their local dealer, something internet deals cannot equal

"Also, the local dealer is as competitive as ones elsewhere in the country as we all work to the same margins, so there shouldn't be much difference in the transaction price."

"The internet changed the industry, but a lot of the offers that are advertised don't even exist. We always have offers on new cars, offer low-rate financing, free roadside assistance,

minimum part-exchange deals and incentives for our loyal customers. I think this is why people come back to us, as well a high-level service. At Baileys we like to treat our customers as part of the family."

Steve Ashby, sales manager at Pierremonts in Broadstairs, said the relationship that is built up with customers is a key part of what makes local dealers a better bet.

"The aftercare is an important thing, as well as what we can do for the customer once they've taken the car home."

"We will look after their needs in the future if we can, taking time to understand what the person wants."

"It's not just about making a profit for dealerships like ours. If you give someone good service then they are likely to return, and that in itself is valuable to us."

"We have some people who have been coming to us for years, to get car after car, and that is a really nice feeling, to know that person is satisfied by the service we offer."

"Also there is that reassurance that the car's history is known to us, which might not be the case if ordering from the internet."

"It all goes to show that staying local really is a great option."

Thomas Betts

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11 programs including:

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hand wash, woollens,
shirts, sportswear

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19hr time delay
Automatic water
adjustment system

Dimensions

HxWxD: 84x60x54 cm



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GSN9120 12 place setting

BLOMBERG

KND9650 7.2/2.4 cu.ft

KGM9680 6.2/3.3 cu.ft

KGM9640 6.2/2.6 cu.ft

WNF6221

6kg 1200rpm

11 programs including:

Mini 14', dark wash,
hand wash, woollens,
shirts, sportswear

Main Features

3/6/9 hr delay

Dimensions

HxWxD: 84x60x50 cm

Colour

White



Washing Machines

£279

£329

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MOTORS NEWS



Ford peps C-Max appeal

FORD'S all-new C-Max MPVs go on sale next month from £16,745.

The five-seater is intended to uphold the out-going car's reputation as one of the sportier people carriers on the market, while the seven-seat Grand version (£18,745) with twin sliding rear doors is a new departure – the first generation C-Max was only ever available with five seats.

Both versions will sell as well-specified premium models with just Zetec and Titanium trim levels – at least initially – and a choice of three petrol and two diesel engines.



Jaguar leaping ahead

JAGUAR sales are roaring – the UK sporting executive marque said sales have leapt 45 per cent so far this year and a whopping 74 per cent in August against August 2009.

This was achieved despite the end of X-Type production and no replacement model and while largely driven by the success of the XF, which outsold its Audi and BMW rivals in every month so far this year, the new XJ saloon was also director's car sector best seller for May, June and July.



Nissan turns a new Leaf

ORDER books have opened on Nissan's new Leaf – claimed to be the world's first affordable, mass-produced, 100 per cent electric vehicle.

Deliveries start in March, priced at £23,990 – including a £5,000 government incentive and the new 20 per cent VAT rate – but Nissan says it will be possible to run the Leaf for less than two pence a mile and with reduced servicing costs, exemption from London's congestion charge, zero road tax and zero benefit in kind penalties for company car drivers.



MAKING A NOISE: Peugeot has raised its game in the MPV stakes and the 5008 offers the versatility demanded by users and the glass cabin gives it an exemplary fit and finish

Peugeot finally gives table a thump with new 5008

ROAD TEST HYHYHYHYHYH

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

sliding mechanism on the three second row chairs – and with all five rear seats capable of folding flat for van duties.

Rarely for this sector, the rearmost pair also takes adults rather than being restricted to passengers who keep asking Dad “are we there yet?” when he's already ratty from having to buy an MPV.

Not surprisingly, the flagship Exclusive spec test car with a 1.6-litre HDi 110bhp diesel helped first impressions with its full-length panoramic roof plus powered sunblind and head-up display showing speed and a distance alert for the car in front reflected in your sight line.

However, the test car's six-speed EGC (electronic gearbox controlled) transmission had me in two minds – much the same can be said for the device itself.

On paper, this clutchless manual delivers better and greener performance than the manual for just £400, but the fully auto changes are jerky and erratic. Buy it if you mostly prefer manual changes and would use auto only in town traffic – don't buy if you habitually drive an automatic because it won't be smooth enough in most situations.

THERE probably isn't a lot of Gallic shoulder-shrugging and table thumping at Peugeot.

But the ‘quiet man’ of the French motor industry has waved its arms around lately with: a Nissan Qashqai riposte (3008), a stunning rival to the Audi TT (RCZ Coupe), a super-car concept and plans to take the ‘Lion Brand’ from No10 to No7 in global production volumes within five years by launching 14 new models.

Oh, and it just did an about face and launched a proper people carrier and it's one of the best – the seven-seat 5008 (from £17,495).

Marketed as “Enjoyed by families – loved by drivers” it mostly gets away with it too, although any MPV is bound to stretch the latter point and the 5008 is outclassed by a Ford S-Max on a winding rural road, but the Ford can't match the Peugeot's ride quality, so it comes down to personal preference.

The executive class cabin features exemplary fit and finish – Peugeot has raised its game here lately – plus the vital versatility that MPV buyers demand.

The 5008 has good individual seating for seven or multiple permutations – helped by the



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CAR OF THE WEEK

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RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Campus Sport
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7
SEATS

2005 05 Reg RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 VVT Dynamique
£5,995



AUTO

MERCEDES BENZ 5320L CDI
£15,995



REDUCED

RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme
£4,995



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SHAPE

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£6,495



3
DOOR

RENAULT Clio 1.6 VVT Dynamique
£5,995



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£500

2001 Y Reg PEUGEOT 206 2.0 SE Cabriolet
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INSURANCE

2004 54 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3
£3,995



DIESEL

2002 51 Reg RENAULT Scenic 1.9 Dci Dynamique
£3,495



LOW
MILEAGE

RENAULT Modus 1.2 Oasis
£5,995



5
DOORS

RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique
£5,995



7
SEATS

2006 06 Reg VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8i Life
£6,995



4X4

Freelander 1.8 Maasai Mara Station Wagon
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MODEL

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LOW
MILEAGE



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DIESEL



VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 TDi Match
£3,995

5
DOOR



2007 07 Reg VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4 S 80
£7,495

AUTO



CITROEN C2 1.6i 16v VTR SensoDrive
£4,495

7
SEATS



CITROEN C4 Grand Picasso 1.8i 16V VTR Plus
£8,995

DIESEL



KIA Carens 2.0 CRDi LX
£4,295

DIESEL



FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi LX
£5,495

REDUCED



FORD Ka 1.3i Style
£3,995

LOW
INSURANCE



RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE
£3,995

AUTO



2003 KIA Magentis 2.5 V6 LX
£2,495

LEATHER



2004 04 Reg MG ZR 1.4 105 +
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08 Renault Megane 1.5 TDi only £30 per year Road Tax.....	£7,995
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54 Renault Scenic 1.6 Expression	£4,995
03 Vauxhall Zafira 1.6, 7 seater.....	£3,995

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Vectra 1.9 CDTi
£5,495



Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 115 Zetec
£3,995

★★★ CAR OF THE WEEK ★★★

54 MAZDA RX8, 192 BHP, Sat Nav. Two tone leather, BOSE sound system. Metallic red, fully loaded. S/History. A stunning car£5,995

DIESEL

57 MERCEDES - BENZ GL CLASS 320 CDI 4 MATIC ,18,000 mls, Sat Nav, Electric pack, Silver, Full leather trim, privacy glass, fully loaded. Available for.....£34,995
56 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI (170) SPORTSLINE, Metallic Grey with sports trim, Bose Audio Syatem, Multi-function steering wheel, Service history£11,995
55 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0, Metallic blue with two tone tan leather interior. Air con, E/W, ABS, CD, Upgraded Alloys. A lovely car£5,995
04 MERCEDES C CLASS 220 CDI SE, Metallic silver with contrasting ash trim. Alloys, multifunction steering wheel. Well maintained.....£5,995
03 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0 Diesel SPORT, Full touch screen sat nav, Silver, Full leather trim, Alloys, Climate control. A stunning car£5,495
06 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTi, Black with grey sports trim. Sat nav, S/History. New model with full electric pack and upgraded alloys£5,495
54 KIA SEDONA 7 Seater, Silver, Full leather trim, In car entertainment, 5 sp, Alloys, Roof rail, Full electric pack, Side loading door£4,995
54 SAAB 93 1.9 TD VECTOR , Metallic blue with two tone tan leather trim, 6 speed, multifunction steering wheel, CD player. A well maintained car£4,495
55 MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 115 ZETEC, 5 door model. 75,000 mls metallic grey with velour trim. P/S, C/L, ABS, E/W, E/M, CD player. 6 speed£3,995
03 VW PASSAT TDI ESTATE SPORTS. Metallic blue with grey trim. P/S, E/W, C/L, Alloys, E/M, Roof rails. A clean well maintained car£3,295

SUMMERTIME

53 Mercedes SL350 Tiptronic Auto, 19 inch AMG wheels, 53,000 mls, Service history, Panoramic roof, Elec memory seats, Heated seats, SatNav, CD multi changer, Elec hood, Climate control, Met silver, Full grey leather trim. A stunning car£17,995
55 (06) VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1.6 LUNA CONVERTABLE, 22,000 mls, Silver with black power hood, New upgraded 18" Alloys, Electric pack. A stunning car£9,495
05 FORD 1.6i STREET KA LUXURY, 55,000 mls, Sports blue with black leather trim, Service history, Alloys, Electric pack, Clean.....£4,995
02 SAAB 9.3 2.0 TURBO SE, 63,000 mls, Service history, Silver with blue power hood, Full black leather trim, Air con, boot spoiler.....£4,995
R BMW Z3 1.8, Bright red with full black leather trim, black hood, New MTEC Alloys, CD player, Service History£3,995

AUTOMATICS

X MERCEDES C200 KOMPRESSOR 2.0, 78,000 mls, bright red with dark velour trim, well maintained, new model. Very clean£4,695
04 MERCEDES C180 KOMPRESSOR COUPE, every extra. Sat nev, Full panoramic roof, Leather, Electric pack, 74,000 mls, S/history£6,995
03 JAGUAR S-TYPE 4.2V8 AUTOMATIC WITH TOUCH SCREEN SAT NAV, Ice pearl blue, Full leather trim, Upgraded alloys£4,995
05 FOCUS 1.6 LX AUTOMATIC, 5 dr, 59,000 mls, Tonic blue with grey flec trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M, Air con, ABS.Well maintained, nice clean car£4,695
02 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, Full leather trim, Metallic red, 65,000 mls, Air con, Alloys. Very clean£3,295

!! LOOK AT THESE PRICES !!

53 AUDI A4 2.0 FSI SPORT, Bright red with body kit and sports trim. 75 k, S/History, Air con, P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M, Alloys. Stunning£5,995
03 BMW 320i (2+2) touring sport, silver with half suede Recaro trim, m-tec alloys, door plates, five speed, ABS, P/S, E/W, E/M, CD player, Bluetooth, very clean.....£4,995
55 RENAULT MEGAN 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE TOURING, 39,000 mls, Metallic red with grey trim. A lovely car. Alloys, P/S, E/W, E/M, C/L, Air con. At just£3,995
05 MG ZT 18 (160 bhp) New model, Silver with ZR Sports trim, E/W, P/S, E/M, Air con, Alloys. Worth a look - clean car£3,495
02 OPEL CORSA 1.8 GSI, Silver with sports trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M alloys, very clean well maintained£3,295
53 JAGUAR 2.1 SE X Type, Ice metallic blue with grey leather trim. P/S, E/W, C/L, ANS, Air con, CD player, C/Locking£3,295
05 RENAULT LAGUNA 2.0 GT 16V TURBO, Black with grey trim. Sat nav, electric pack, Alloys, Card start, Climate control£2,995
55 CHEVROLET TACUMA 2.0 CDX, Silver 34,000 mls, Air con, E/W, C/L, P/S, ABS£2,995
52 SAAB 93 2.0 TURBO, Silver with grey trim, very clean and very well maintained, alloys ABS aircon P/S, C/L, E/W£2,695
02 SKODA FABIA 1.4 CLASSIC ESTATE, 62,000 mls, Blue/Grey trim, P/S, E/W, Air con, Remote C/L, ABS, 1 owner, Clean car£2,695
02 MG ZT 190 Black with sued sports trim. 2.5 petrol. Alloys, E/W, C/L, E/M, C/Locking. Boot spoiler, body kit. 77,000 mls.....£2,495
W FORD GALAXY 2.3 GHIA 7 SEATER, Black with grey trim. P/S, E/W, E/M, Alloys, Roof rails. 98,000 mls. Set to go at£2,495

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 53 RENAULT CLIO 1.6, 3 Door, dynamique, 38,000 miles, black with velour trim P/S, E/W, C/L, S/R, climate control, alloys, clean car.....£3,495
 05 MG ZR 1.4 (new mdl), metallic red with sports trim, 48,000 mls, 3 door model. P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M, Air con, Alloys.....£3,295
 53 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 'Look', 3 door, 57,000 mls, new alloy wheels, extra arched model, Silver with grey trim, P/S, C/L, E/W. Be quick.....£2,995
 06 FORD KA, 37,000 MILES, BLUE WITH GREY TRIM. P/S, low insurance, low road tax. A very clean car.....£2,995
 W FORD KA 1.3i COLLECTION. Ideal first car. Metallic red, fully colour coded, P/S, E/W, C/L, 54,000 mls.....£1,695

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02 VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.2 SRi (150), 5 DOOR, Silver with grey sports trim, FSH. a clean car.....£1,995
 W PEUGEOT 306 (14) 5 DOOR LX, Metallic red with grey trim, P/S, C/L, Low insurance.....£1,995
 V SUBARU LEGACY 2.5 GX AUTOMATIC SALOON, Metallic red with black leather trim, climate control, Fully loaded, S/history0.....£1,995
 03 ROVER 25 1.6, 5 door, Metallic Ash silver with grey trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, Alloys. Very clean and reliable.....£1,995
 Y FIAT SEICENTO SPORTING, 48,000 mls, yellow.....£1,695
 T FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX, 5 door, Ice green with grey trim. P/S, C/L, E/W. Clean Car for year.....£1,695
 X FORD MONDEO ZETEC, 5 door, Silver with grey trim, P/S, C/L, ABS, Alloys, CD player, air con.....£1,495
 Y FORD KA 1.3i, Silver, P/S, C/L, 75,000 mls.....£1,495
 X ALFA ROMEO 18 T SPARK, Grey, 91,000 mls.....£1,295
 W ROVER 1.4i, 5 door, Metallic green. Clean.....£1,295
 W ROVER 25 1.4i, 5 door, British Racing Green with grey trim, C/L, P/S, E/W. Low insurance. IDEAL FIRST CAR.....£1,295
 Y ROVER 45 1.4, Metallic red with velour trim, P/S, E/W, C/L. Clean and reliable.....£1,095
 W MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC, Grey velour trim. Reliable.....£995
 R RENAULT CLIO 1.4 BIARRITZA, one owner, green.....£995
 R VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 AUTOMATIC, Silver.....£695

UNDER £1000!

V FORD MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC, Silver with velour trim, E/W, P/S, C/L, Alloys, CD player. MoT'd.....£995
 R FORD ESCORT 1.8 Si, Metallic red with grey trim, 5 door, P/S, C/L, E/W. Worth a look.....£895
 R ASTRA 1.6 ARTIC, 5 door, Bright red with grey trim, P/S, C/L. Clean car for year.....£695

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 04 FORD TRANSIT T350 UNDERARM TIPPER DIRECT FROM BT, Low mileage, White cab with new blue body with cage bulk. Immaculate.....£6,995 + vat
 08 VOLKSWAGEN CADDY 1.9 TDI C20, 1 owner, Green, Fully colour coded, New 18" Alloys, Plylined mesh bulkhead, S/H, CD player, Remote central locking.....£6,495 + vat
 57 VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.9 CDTi, 50,000 mls, one owner, white, dual passenger seat, C/Locking, plylined bulkhead, S/L/D, rear barn doors. A very clean car.....£6,495 + vat
 57 MERCEDES VITO 111 CDI LWB, one owner, white, dual passenger seat, rear barn doors, S/L/D, C/Locking, E/W, Bulkhead plylined. Very clean.....£6,495 + vat
 57 TRANSIT T280 SWB, Low roof, white, one owner, dual passenger seat, rear barn doors, plylined, C/Locking, S/L/D. ready for work.....£6,495 + vat
 56 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 CDTi White with grey trim, Plylined, Direct from major PLC Company, Well maintained, Remote C/L, P/S. Very clean.....£4,695 + vat
 06 ASTRA 1.7 CDTi SPORTIVE, Silver with grey trim, 59,000 mls, Air con, Alloys, C/D, Sports lights, Roof rails, Dry lined. Very clean van.....£4,695 + vat
 06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi SPORTIVE, Silver with sports trim. E/W, P/S, E/M, CD Player, Alloys, Air con. S/H. Ready for work.....£4,695 + vat
 53 PEUGEOT EXPERT 1.9 D, Twin side loading doors, plylined bulkhead, dual passenger seat, rear barn doors, slam locks, 66,000 mls.....£2,995 + vat
 02 Vauxhall combo van, 1.7 DTi, white, clean van, above all reliable, tax and MOT.....£2,495 + VAT
 02 VAUXHALL COMBO 1.7 DTi, white, S/L/D, P/S, glazed rear doors. Very clean, drives well.....£1,995 + vat



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Low Roof

Transit T280 SWB
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Clean Van

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On the road price £6,995
Amount to finance £6,858
Total amount payable £7,866
5.9 % APR TYPICAL

Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3dr

Customer deposit £150
36 monthly payments £150
Final payment (inc. option to purchase fee of £145) £3,474
On the road price £7,995
Amount to finance £7,845
Total amount payable £9,024
5.9 % APR TYPICAL

Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4

Customer deposit £1,300
36 monthly payments £179
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On the road price £11,295
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Finance Example* 07 07 Ford Focus 1.6 LX 5dr 150 Credit Facility Fee is included. **A £299 Completion Fee is included in the Final Payment.

Cash Price	£7,000	Deposit	£2,400	First payment	£2,577.67	Total amount payable	£8,588.67	Total charge for credit	£1,249.67	Mileage per annum	6,000	Excess mileage charge per mile	14.5p	15.18% APR	36 monthly payments	£99.19
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*VAT reduction (based on the VAT rate applicable at 25th May 2010) available on all Fabia models except for vRS and on all Octavia and all Roomster models. Prices & offers correct at time of going to press. We reserve the right to amend or withdraw offers without prior notice. This advert supercedes any previously advertised offers. Pictures for illustration purposes only. **Official fuel consumption in mpg for the Skoda range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) - 53.3 (5.3), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 68.9 (4.1). CO2 emissions (g/km) Skoda range: 109-237.**

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TACUMA, SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking, red, 19000 miles, £2950, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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PT CRUISER, passenger airbag rear electric windows side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment traction control 2 owner, midnight blue, 52000 miles, £4000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

VOYAGER, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air con alloys automatic transmission cd player electric windows half leather trim heated seats immobiliser remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

VOYAGER, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air con alloys automatic transmission cd player electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C-CROSSER, 5, gy08 vtf, 2 registered keepers central locking remote central locking front electric windows electric windows electric mirrors abs traction control air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag side airbags cruise control alarm immobiliser full leather interior alloy wheels, grey, 11600 miles, £16995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, 3, gf58nvn, remote central locking front electric windows abs power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag fsh, red, 11000 miles, £6995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, black, 50 miles, £10980, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, red, 50 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch, bv08upo, pas, abs, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, rear wiper, blue, 18035 miles, £5695, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Splash 5dr Hatch Special Edition, gu090lk, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, cloth seat trim, rear wiper, front head restraints, blue, 17540 miles, £5695, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch, gy58vux, pas, abs, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, rear wiper, red, 11340 miles, £5695, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, Vibe, 2008, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag immobiliser power steering single cd player, red, 22000 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, Splash, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering remote central locking, 10, 10 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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Cliffe Woods



Guide Price £320k to 340k

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Strood



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Senior & General Appointments 49-52

HEAD TEACHER

(Group 1) Salary Scale: L1 – L18

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4 New Street, Chatham. ME4 6RH Tel: (01634) 844135**

Following retirement, our friendly, one-form entry school in central Chatham needs a caring, enthusiastic and forward-thinking head-teacher, starting January 2011. With a strong Christian ethos, the school celebrates cultural diversity, working closely with the local community, the local Parish Church and as a feeder school with Balfour Junior School. The new head teacher will value and develop these relationships. With proven management experience at KSI, you will build and manage a team to continue a 148 year tradition of excellent education for pupils of all abilities and backgrounds in a "happy and harmonious atmosphere" (Ofsted 2009).

Come and visit **"The Village School in the Heart of Medway"**

Please phone Mrs. L. Day at the school from 1st September to make an appointment.

St. John's Infant School is committed to safeguarding young people. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. Applications will only be accepted by application form and supporting letter. References will be taken up before interviews, to be held during the week beginning 27th September.

For an application pack, please contact: Susan Bowers, HR Services, Schools, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham. Kent ME4 4TR Tel: (01634) 331100 email susan.bowers@medway.gov.uk

Starting date: 1st January 2011
Closing date for applications: 1pm Friday 17th September



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Covering the Medway towns and surrounding area, we are looking for someone with good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and casework skills and proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users. Applicants with experience of working with young people with a dual diagnosis will be particularly welcome.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference 704.

Closing date: Midday on Monday 13 September 2010.
Interview date: Monday 27 September 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
Charity No: 292824

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Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w, term time only. Previous experience and/or NNEB (or equivalent) qualifications preferred. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone (stating the role for which you are applying):
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent ME2 3SP
(01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted. Closing date: 24.9.2010



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The successful applicant must:

- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Be enthusiastic and confident when working with young people
- Have a good level of literacy
- Be able to demonstrate a passion for reading and competency with ICT.
- Work with diligence and accuracy.
- Be confident to work independently and multi-task
- Be willing to undertake training

We are in the current wave of *Building Schools for the Future (BSF)*, and have just moved into a brand new school on our existing site with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. We have not had library facilities for some years, so are looking for someone to help develop a dedicated area to a brand new library facility with a generous budget.

If you think you have the qualities required for this role, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 8081120 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Closing date: 7th September 2010
Interview date: 13th September 2010

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.
Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.
Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy*

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MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation

Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

**Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 15 September 2010.
Interviews to be held on Monday 20 September 2010.**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



Community Assistant KS5 • Pro-rata • Term time only

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, positive and committed person to join our highly regarded Communities of Learning. This is an important role supporting our Heads of Communities of Learning within our vertical student support system. Applicants must be able to work collaboratively and have some prior experience of working with children or young adults.

The successful applicant will require an enhanced disclosure. Further information about the disclosure scheme can be found at www.disclosure.gov.uk.

For further information or an application pack please contact the school on 01233 614600 or email jmanning@north.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: 13th September 2010



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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Customer Services Supervisor

Ref: P0070

Salary: £18,709 - £21,994 per annum
Maidstone

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to supervise, motivate and coordinate the activities of a team, engaged in all Customer Service activities, to enable the Maidstone Campus to meet the College's strategic aims and its day to day responsibility to provide high quality education and training.

The successful candidate will have a customer-focussed approach towards excellence, be confident and self motivated with the ability to work on own initiative demonstrating confidence in decision making. The candidate must also have the ability to plan, prioritise and monitor their own work and the work of the team.

The role will be working closely with the Campus Manager and the Health and Safety Manager to provide a robust service to the College.

A recognised customer service and / or management qualification would be desirable along with basic health and safety training with a commitment to gain an IoSH qualification in "Managing Safely".

A track record of managing teams would be advantageous for this exciting role.

Closing date: Wednesday 15 September 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Windows Software Engineer - £39-45K

Primarily responsible for the design and development of Windows & Web based technologies to control our range of video processing products. Key Skills: Fluent in Visual studio C# / Visual Basic; Experience of designing GUI's with timeline functionality; Web Development

Hardware Design Engineer - £39-45K

Primarily responsible for Initiating and progressing development of the Schematic & PCB designs from concept to production & compliance with EMC & safety standards. Key Skills: Experience in Digital & Analogue design, preferably incorporating video technologies; Experience of schematic entry and multilayer PCB design for complete design cycle from concept to production release

R&D Test Engineer - £29-35K

Primarily responsible for the support of R&D for prototyping & testing of new designs, creation of technical documentation, maintaining quality of product and documentation. Key Skills: Experience in electronics product testing role (Hardware/Software etc), familiar with quality controls & testing standards, Good communication skills

To apply for any of these positions contact:
Amanda Holges, TV One Ltd. Unit V, Continental Approach, Westwood Industrial Estate, Margate, Kent. CT9 4JG Tel: 01843 873300 recruit.europe@tvone.com <http://www.tvone.eu>

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You will play the key role in selling advertising and sponsorship across our market-leading portfolio of websites and mobile products.

Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and great all-round organisation and IT skills.

Other Vacancies

KOS Media is always interested to hear from people with ideas who would be interested in a career in multi-media, within local or regional markets.

Whatever your skill set and experience is, please do tell us about yourself and send in your CV, with a covering letter, telling us what you have to offer and how you see yourself working at an innovative media company such as KOS Media.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

To apply send your CV with covering letter to:

Jason Pyne, Development Director
KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.
Or by email: jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk

Events and Exhibitions Executive

You will play the key role in selling and coordinating our groups events, exhibitions and sponsorship across our market-leading portfolio of newspapers, magazines, show guides, websites and mobile products.

- All vacancies come with the opportunity to earn high bonus potential, which is uncapped and based on your skills and desire to achieve major market share gains.

We're looking for professional individuals who are able to take ownership for their client group and work on their own initiative. Above all you will need to deliver total commitment and dedication to the business to help us continue to be the very best.

Applicants must have a full and valid manual driving licence. Ideal candidates will be computer literate with a sales/marketing background and the ability to provide industry-leading customer service.

About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.



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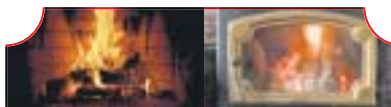
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CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Kent League Premier Division
Gore Court 1st XI v Lordswood 1st XI

LORDSWOOD were relegated from the Premier Division for the second time in three seasons despite finishing off with a four-wicket victory at Gore Court on Saturday.

The win would have meant the side finished level on points with third-bottom Tunbridge Wells, but a points penalty applied last week sealed their fate before the weekend's games.

The Kent Cricket League found Lordswood had fielded an ineligible player for two games earlier this season and opted to strip the side of the points gained in those fixtures. As a result it turned an already difficult task to stay up into an impossible one, with Saturday's game rendered academic.

Gore Court, without a league win to their name all season, offered a chance to get rid of any frustration about the decision. Opener Karl Pearson struck 80 and carried his bat, but otherwise it was another disappointing day for the home side.

Chris Piesley and Kevin Masters took two wickets apiece as Court were restricted to 166 for 9 from their 50 overs.

Lordswood lost Chris Piesley early on in their reply, but Matt Greenwood (58) and Peter Stock (31) put on 92 for the second wicket. Christopher Vernon's 22 not out then guided the visitors home with four wickets and more than 17 overs to spare, giving the side some consolation.

Lords pay heavy price for fielding ineligible players



DOWN: Lordswood (batting) saw off Gore Court but penalties for fielding ineligible players saw them relegated

SCORE CARD

Gore Court 1st XI

	Runs
Karl Pearson not out	80
Alex Campbell lbw b Greenwood	1
Tyler Griffin ct Scott b C Piesley	13
Timothy Johnston ct Pattenden b C Piesley	0
Philip Edwards c&b Laraman	30
Hal Pearson ct Lockhart b Masters	17
Jamie Lavers ct Stock b Masters	12
Ali Rushworth not out	0
Tom Palmer did not bat	
Tom Passey did not bat	
Adam Collins did not bat	

Extras (2lb 10w 1nb)	13
Total (6 wickets, 50 overs)	166

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Matt Greenwood	9	1	51	1
John Williams	5	2	5	0
Chris Piesley	10	0	29	2
Darren Scott	10	5	11	0
Jack Laraman	7	0	20	1
Lyndon Lockhart	3	0	18	0
Kevin Masters	6	0	30	2

Lordswood 1st XI

	Runs
Matt Greenwood ct Pearson b Johnston	58
Chris Piesley b Edwards	3
Peter Stock ct Griffin b Collins	31
Christopher Vernon not out	22
Lyndon Lockhart ct Edwards b Campbell	18
Alan Pattenden lbw b Campbell	0
John Williams ct Lavers b Collins	0
Darren Scott not out	9
Sham Piesley did not bat	
Jack Laraman did not bat	
Kevin Masters did not bat	

Extras (1b 1lb 17w 2nb 5pr)	26
Total (6 wickets, 32.3 overs)	167

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Philip Edwards	10	0	41	1
Adam Collins	9	0	45	2
Tyler Griffin	2	0	22	0
Timothy Johnston	7	0	28	1
Alex Campbell	3	0	15	2
Karl Pearson	1	0	5	0
Jamie Lavers	0.3	0	4	0

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Catford and Cyphers 1st XI v High Halstow 1st XI

HIGH Halstow dropped through the relegation trapdoor with a whimper as a woeful batting display set up a seven-wicket defeat at Catford and Cyphers.

The visitors were in trouble from the outset as the top three batsmen contributed just five runs between them. There was no relief in the middle order as the single figure scores continued and they were only rescued from a disastrous total by Rupert Staple's 53.

The home side lost two early wickets but had little difficulty chasing down 94, which they reached in the 20th over.

High Halstow 1st XI

	Runs
James Leadbeater	1
David Sibley	4
Ashley Trigg	0
Steve Laphorn	7
Simon Morley	2
Tim Mumday	1
Andy Simpson	2
Jamie Trigg	0
Rupert Staple	53
Samuel Kember	5
Jamie Taylor	2

Extras	16
Total	93

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Sherman Gordon	8.2	1	44	4
Kirk Hamilton	9	3	29	5
Richard Dear	4	0	10	0

Catford and Cyphers 1st XI

	Runs
John-Joseph Fogarty	7
Dennis Chambers	0
David Gayle	50
Joe Wheal	19
Hoshang Noria	14
Howard Chambers	0
Daniel Anthony	0
Sherman Gordon	0
Neneto Davis	0
Richard Dear	0
Kirk Hamilton	0

Extras	4
Total	94

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Rupert Staple	10	0	41	1
Steve Laphorn	9.1	0	50	2

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Upchurch 1st XI v Downham & Bellingham 1st XI

A CENTURY from Lee Taylor underlined Upchurch's dominance as promotion was sealed with a crushing 123-run win against Downham & Bellingham.

The batsman's knock was pivotal as the middle order largely failed after Upchurch's openers had got the hosts off to a decent start. Taylor hit 15 boundaries in his 104 not out, which came from only 99 balls.

Chasing 210 for victory, Downham & Bellingham buckled as they looked for the victory which would have saved them from relegation. Marc Bond finished with 5 for 29 as the visitors were knocked over for 86.

Upchurch 1st XI

	Runs
Michael Hales	32
Andrew Shirley	23
Adam Hodder	1
Lee Taylor	104
Michael Hales Jr	14
Theo Barnett	6
Lee Stepney	6
Marc Bond	0
Daniel Parker	1
Kevin Cunningham Jr	5
Craig Bewick	9

Extras	8
Total	209

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Stewart Barnes	11	2	45	1
David Meeking	9	3	25	1
Chris Goddard	15	2	42	1
Chris Mendham	8	2	41	4
Adam Cannon	7	0	50	1

Downham & Bellingham 1st XI

	Runs
Greg Plowman	0
Joe Bumstead	23
Gary Hopper	1
Paul Sampson	14
Chris Goddard	0
David Powell	30
Robin Bailey	9
Stewart Barnes	6
Adam Cannon	0
Chris Mendham	0
David Meeking	0

Extras	3
Total	86

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Daniel Parker	7	1	20	1
Marc Bond	12	2	29	5
Kevin Cunningham Jr	7	1	23	1
Craig Bewick	3.3	1	13	1
Adam Hodder	2	2	0	1

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP EAST

Sandwich Town 3rd XI v Blue Bell Hill 1st XI

A DISAPPOINTING season for Blue Bell Hill ended with a 26-run defeat at Sandwich Town 3rds.

The side's relegation had already been confirmed before Saturday's game, but Paul Fookes got them off to a decent start with three wickets at the top of Sandwich's order. Clive Thurgate's half century, along with 36 not out from Andy Chapman, got the hosts to 180 for 7.

Blue Bell Hill's openers were quickly sent back to the pavilion in the reply. Most of their middle order made starts, but none could convert it into a match-winning score.

Sandwich Town 3rd XI

	Runs
Mark Baldock	35
Matthew Sumner	19
Tony Curwen	4
Christopher Henry	6
Clive Thurgate	50
Andy Chapman	36
William Thurgate	12
John Wickham	1
Ben Chapman	1
Scott Isles	0
Chris Smith	0

Extras	16
Total	180

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
John Underwood	11	1	41	2
Paul Fookes	12	4	31	3
Leigh Short	12	2	26	0
Ian Hayward	11	0	69	2

Blue Bell Hill 1st XI

	Runs
Jack Attridge	0
David Smith	3
Anay Patel	24
Leigh Short	14
Ian Hayward	38
Paul Fookes	8
Tim Haywood	14
Neil Redmond	14
Jon Rayfield	9
Steve Sage	0
John Underwood	1

Extras	22
Total	154

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
John Wickham	10	4	22	2
William Thurgate	8.1	3	15	2
Chris Smith	9	2	28	0
Ben Chapman	12	2	60	6
Scott Isles	4	0	24	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP EAST

Littlebourne 1st XI v Old Williamsons 1st XI

RUNNERS-UP Old Williamsons finished a good season on a high as they beat Littlebourne by six wickets on Saturday.

The home side came out all guns blazing, bashing 72 off the first ten overs to take the visitors by surprise. They hit back, with the wickets shared out among their attack as Littlebourne were all out for 219.

Of the batsmen to feature in the reply, only Hugo Parnell (15) failed to make an impact, as the Old Boys' line-up all tucked in. Jonathan Child top scored with 61 as victory was sealed in the 39th over.

Littlebourne 1st XI

	Runs
Jonathon Holton	9
Sam Whittaker	43
Ian Hitchings	38
Jason Robson	0
Andy Coleman	1
Owen Holton	33
Charlie Davey	4
Tony Beer	45
Sam Harrison	1
Adam Arnold	17
Andrew Guy	0

Extras	28
Total	219

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Phil Patterson	6.2	1	34	2
Jimmy Masters	6	0	39	2
Luke Butcher	7	0	37	3
Jonathan Child	2	0	10	0
Alex Fisher	6	0	31	2
Hugo Parnell	9	2	39	1
Peter Meyers	3	0	19	0

Old Williamsons 1st XI

	Runs
Hugo Parnell	15
Daniel Buckle	47
Luke Butcher	44
Jonathan Child	61
James Pentecost	21
Sean Holbrook	9
Alex Fisher	0
Peter Meyers	0
Phil Patterson	0
Jimmy Masters	0
David Child	0

Extras	25
Total	222

Bowlers	0	M	R	W
Tony Beer	6	0	40	0
Sam Harrison	5	0	24	1
Andrew Guy	9	1	51	2
Adam Arnold	9	3	37	0
Sam Whittaker	2	0	21	0
Owen Holton	2	0	9	0
Jonathan Holton	3	0	15	1
Ian Hitchings	2.5	0	9	0

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